

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

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ANNIVERSARY

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SEGA®

# SONIC™

## THE HEDGEHOG



**DARKEST  
STORM**  
PART 1 OF 3



Anniversary 2006  
**15th**  
SONIC  
THE HEDGEHOG

SPAZ

# THE DARKEST STORM

Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencils: JAMES FRY  
Inks: JIM AMASH • Colors: JASON JENSEN  
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN  
Cover: PATRICK "SPAZ" SPAZIANTE  
Editor: MIKE PELLERITO  
Managing Editor: VICTOR GOREBLICK  
Editor-in-Chief: RICHARD GOLDWATER

## Part One: THE GATHERING TEMPEST

I HAVE LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.

I HAVE KNOWN OF EVERY BATTLE AND VILLAIN HE HAS FACED.

OF ALL HIS FOES, HIS DEADLIEST HAVE BEEN...

...DOCTOR IVO "EGGMAN" ROBOTNIK...

...IXIS NAUGUS...

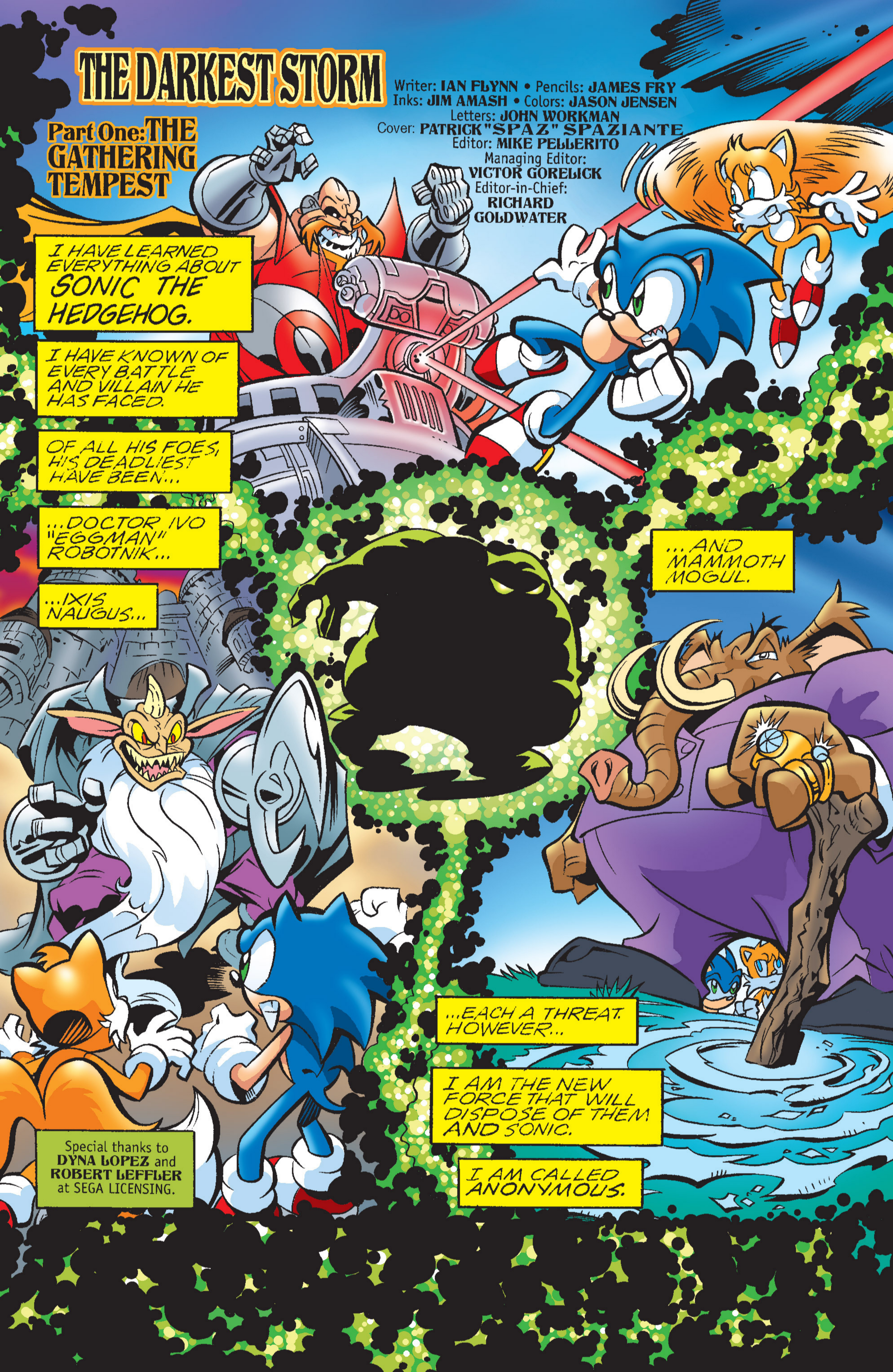
...AND MAMMOTH MOGUL.

...EACH A THREAT. HOWEVER...

I AM THE NEW FORCE THAT WILL DISPOSE OF THEM AND SONIC.

I AM CALLED ANONYMOUS.

Special thanks to DYNA LOPEZ and ROBERT LEFFLER at SEGA LICENSING.



I HAVE DECIDED TO USE KNOT-HOLE, HOME TO SONIC.

A NEW AND UNTESTED KING SEEKS TO REVIVE THE OLD WAYS...

...SO IN LIGHT OF YOUR SERVICES TO MY FATHER, I WOULD GLADLY RETURN YOUR KNIGHTHOOD.\*

I APPRECIATE IT, ELIAS,... ER, YOUR MAJESTY... BUT I DON'T NEED A TITLE TO KEEP ME COOL.

COME NOW, SONIC. KNIGHTHOOD IS A PRESTIGIOUS HONOR.

COOLER THAN "HERO OF EVERYTHING"? NAA, UNCLE CHUCK, IT'S COOL. BESIDES, THERE'S ALREADY A KNIGHT IN THE FAMILY-- YOU!

\*S# 78 AND # 93.

THAT'S ONE REASON I ASKED FOR YOU, SIR CHARLES. IT'S ALSO WHY I HOPED YOU WOULD ACCEPT, SONIC.

EVEN DURING THE GREAT WAR, MY FATHER COULD RELY ON HIS KNIGHTS AND THE COURT OF ACORN...

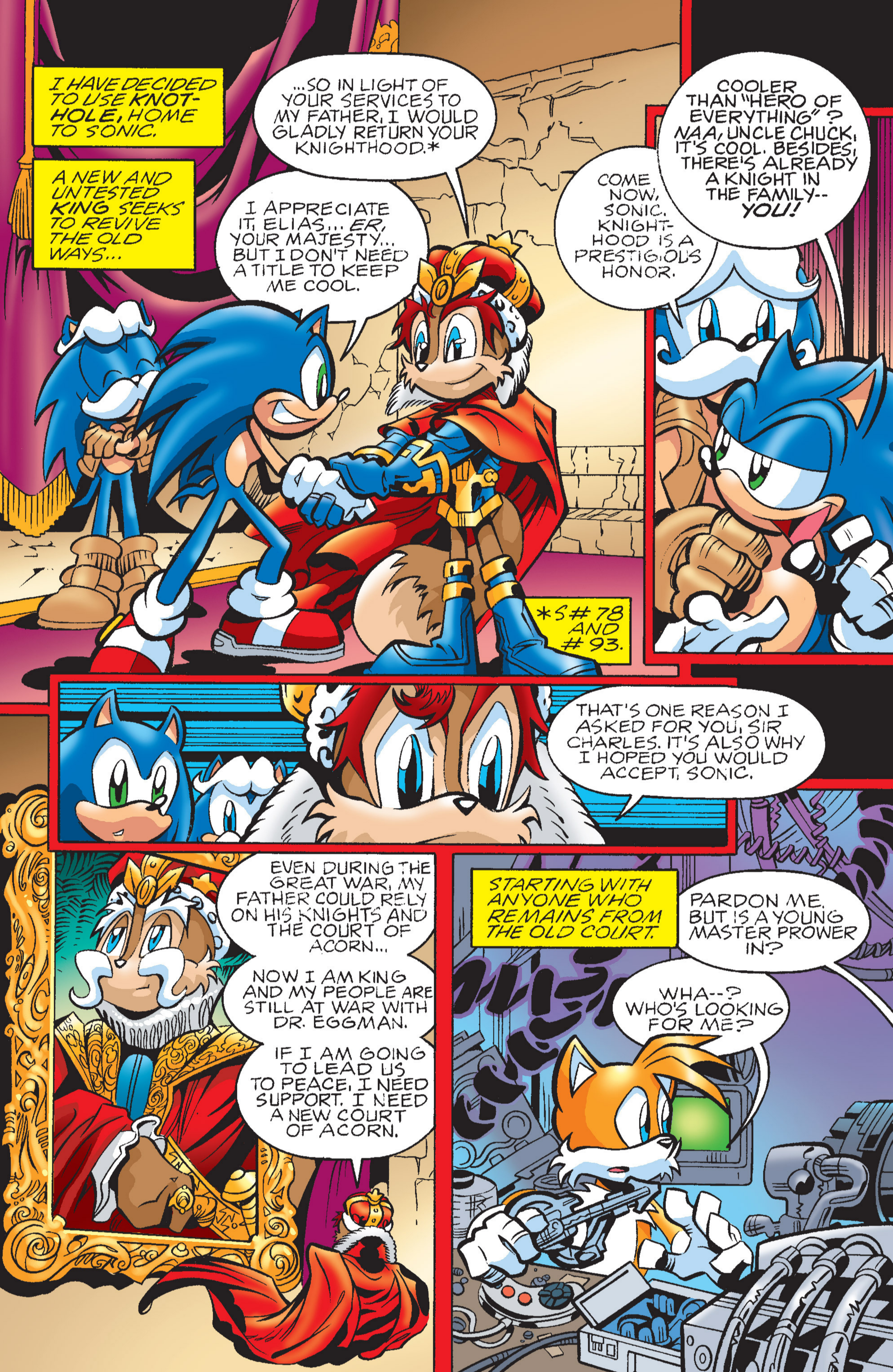
NOW I AM KING AND MY PEOPLE ARE STILL AT WAR WITH DR. EGGMAN.

IF I AM GOING TO LEAD US TO PEACE, I NEED SUPPORT. I NEED A NEW COURT OF ACORN.

STARTING WITH ANYONE WHO REMAINS FROM THE OLD COURT.

PARDON ME, BUT IS A YOUNG MASTER PROWER IN?

WHA--? WHO'S LOOKING FOR ME?



YOUR UNCLE,  
CHOSEN ONE,  
I AM MERLIN  
PROWER.

R-REALLY?  
ATHAIR TOLD  
ME ABOUT  
YOU\*...BUT...  
I NEVER  
THOUGHT I'D  
GET TO...  
I'VE NEVER  
HAD...

I KNOW, MILES.  
I'M SORRY I'VE  
BEEN KEPT AWAY  
FROM YOU FOR  
SO LONG.

\*S # 149.

I AM HERE NOW, THOUGH,  
AND I PROMISE TO HELP  
REBUILD OUR FAMILY.

I'M JUST HAPPY  
TO FINALLY HAVE  
SOMEBODY BACK!

I WISH WE HAD  
MORE TIME, BUT  
I'M AFRAID I  
MUST SPEAK WITH  
THE KING RIGHT  
AWAY.

⇒ *SNIFF* ⇒ IT'S OKAY,  
AS LONG AS YOU  
PROMISE TO STAY.  
WHAT DO YOU  
NEED TO SEE  
THE KING FOR?

HE HOLDS PART OF THE  
KEY TO SAVING THE ANCIENT  
WALKERS... AND TO KEEPING  
HIM SAFELY TRAPPED.

MAMMOTH  
MOGUL!\*

\*S # 150

AS THE MOBBIANS TRY TO REBUILD...

...DOCTOR EGGMAN QUICKLY WORKS TO DESTROY.

I HAVE AN UPDATE FOR YOU, FATHER.

GIVE DADDY SOME GOOD NEWS, A.D.A.M.!!

FANTASTIC!

YOUR EGG GRAPES ARE NEARLY COMPLETE. SENSORS READ 99% BIOFIELD-DELETION.

FATHER?

YOU SEE, M, THIS MEANS I CAN SOON MOVE ON TO MY NEXT PHASE!

ONCE THE ERASURES ARE COMPLETE, I WILL SYPHON POWER OUT OF THE ZONE OF SILENCE, PURIFYING IT THROUGH THE EGG GRAPES, GIVING ME THE RAW ENERGY OF AN ENTIRE DIMENSION!

WHY DRAIN THE MOBBIANS?

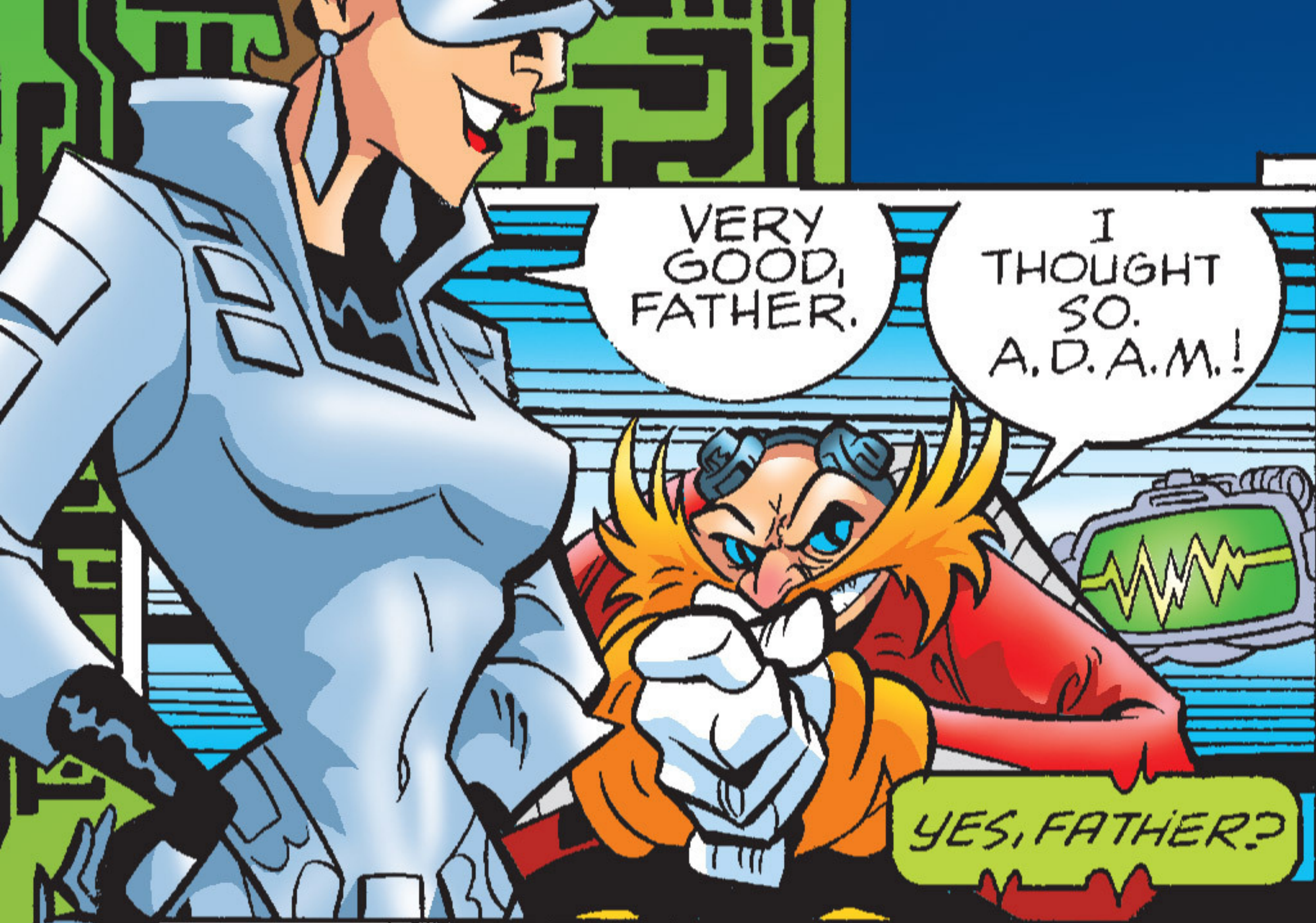
SO THAT THEIR EMPTY HUSKS WILL ACT AS A KIND OF FILTER!

IS THERE NOT A MORE EFFICIENT WAY? CAN YOU NOT REACH YOUR VISION...

...IN A QUICKER WAY?

OH, I'M SURE I CAN.

BUT WHERE WOULD THE FUN BE IN THAT?



VERY GOOD, FATHER.

I THOUGHT SO. A.D.A.M.!

YES, FATHER?

TELL ME YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED THE INDIVIDUAL WHO CALLED HIMSELF "ANONYMOUS." \*

I AM AFRAID NOT, FATHER. I AM INDESCRIBABLY SORRY.

THEN RE-DOUBLE YOUR SEARCHING EFFORTS!

YES, FATHER.

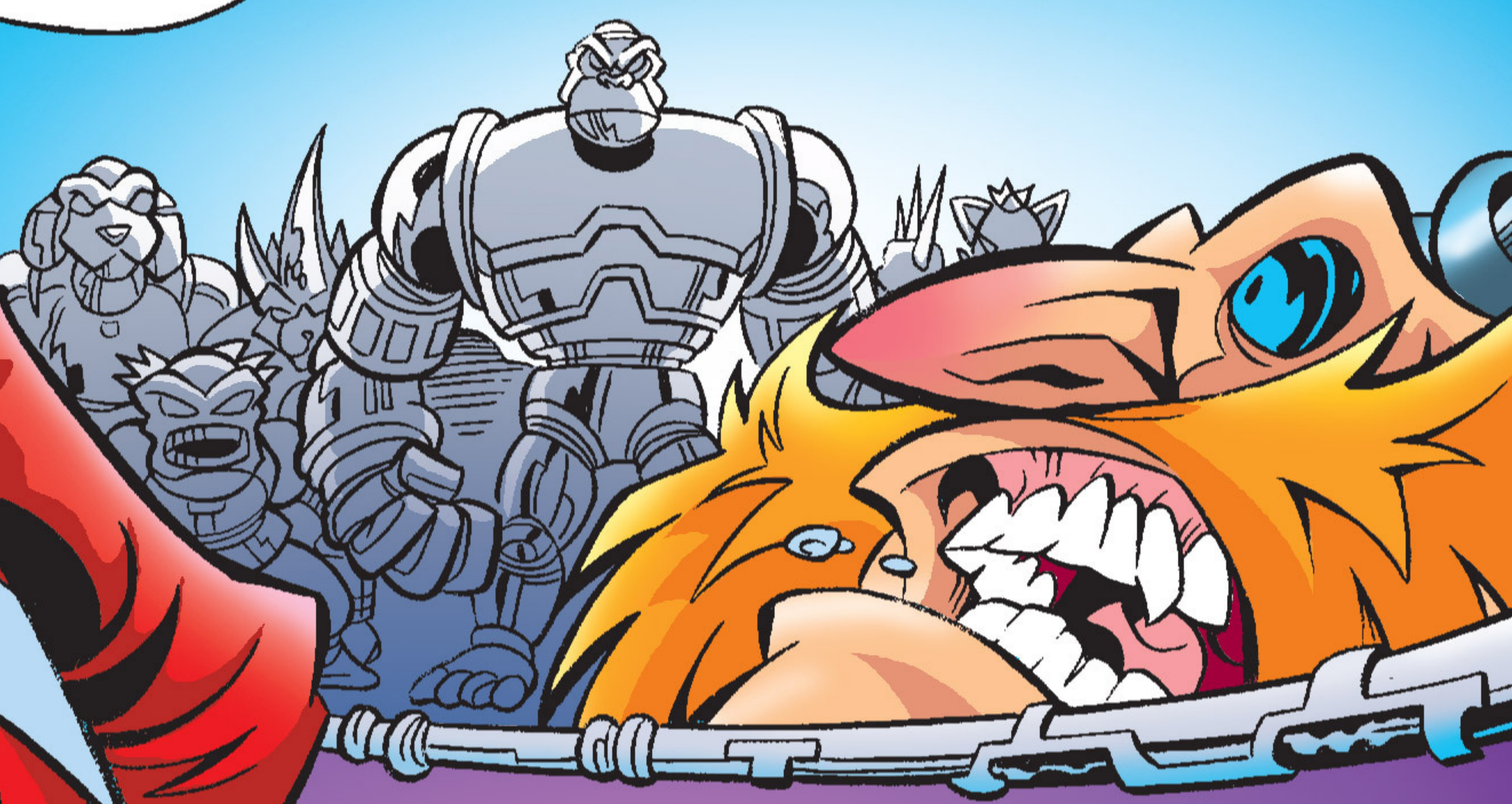
\*S# 135

I HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE FROM THAT HEDGEHOG WITHOUT SOME UPSTART BOTHERING ME.

ALTHOUGH HE PRESENTED HIMSELF BEARING GIFTS, STEALING MY ROBOTIZATION TECHNIQUE IS UNFORGIVABLE.\*\*

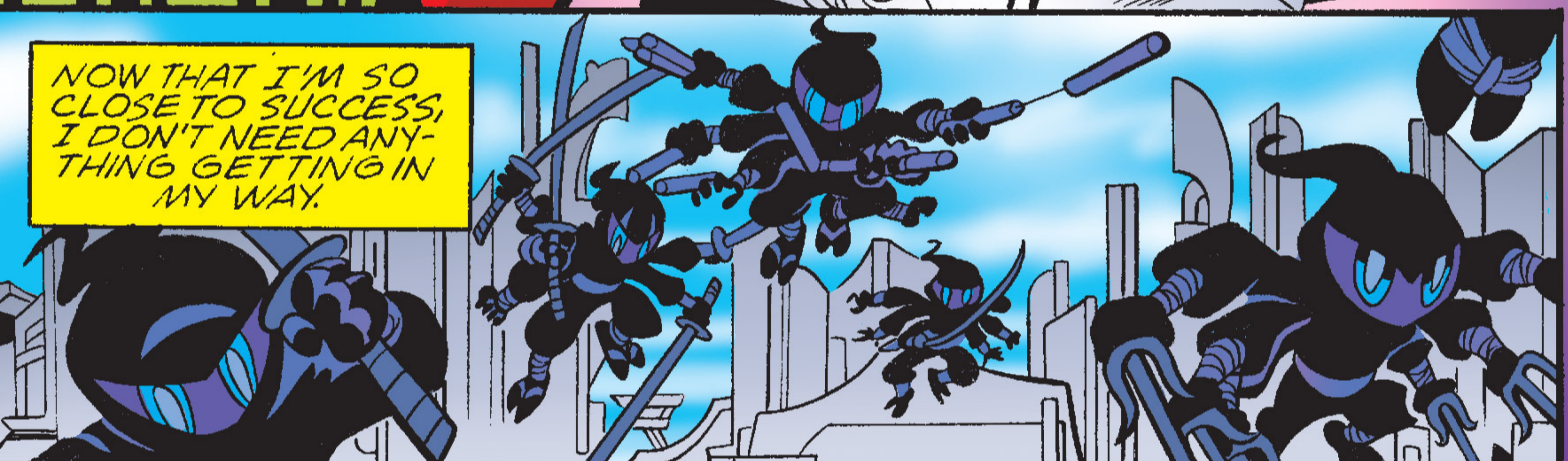


THEN HE SET MY NANITES TO SPREADING\*\*\* I WAS SAVING THOSE FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION!



\*\* ALSO S# 135  
\*\*\* S# 152--KINDA

NOW THAT I'M SO CLOSE TO SUCCESS, I DON'T NEED ANYTHING GETTING IN MY WAY.



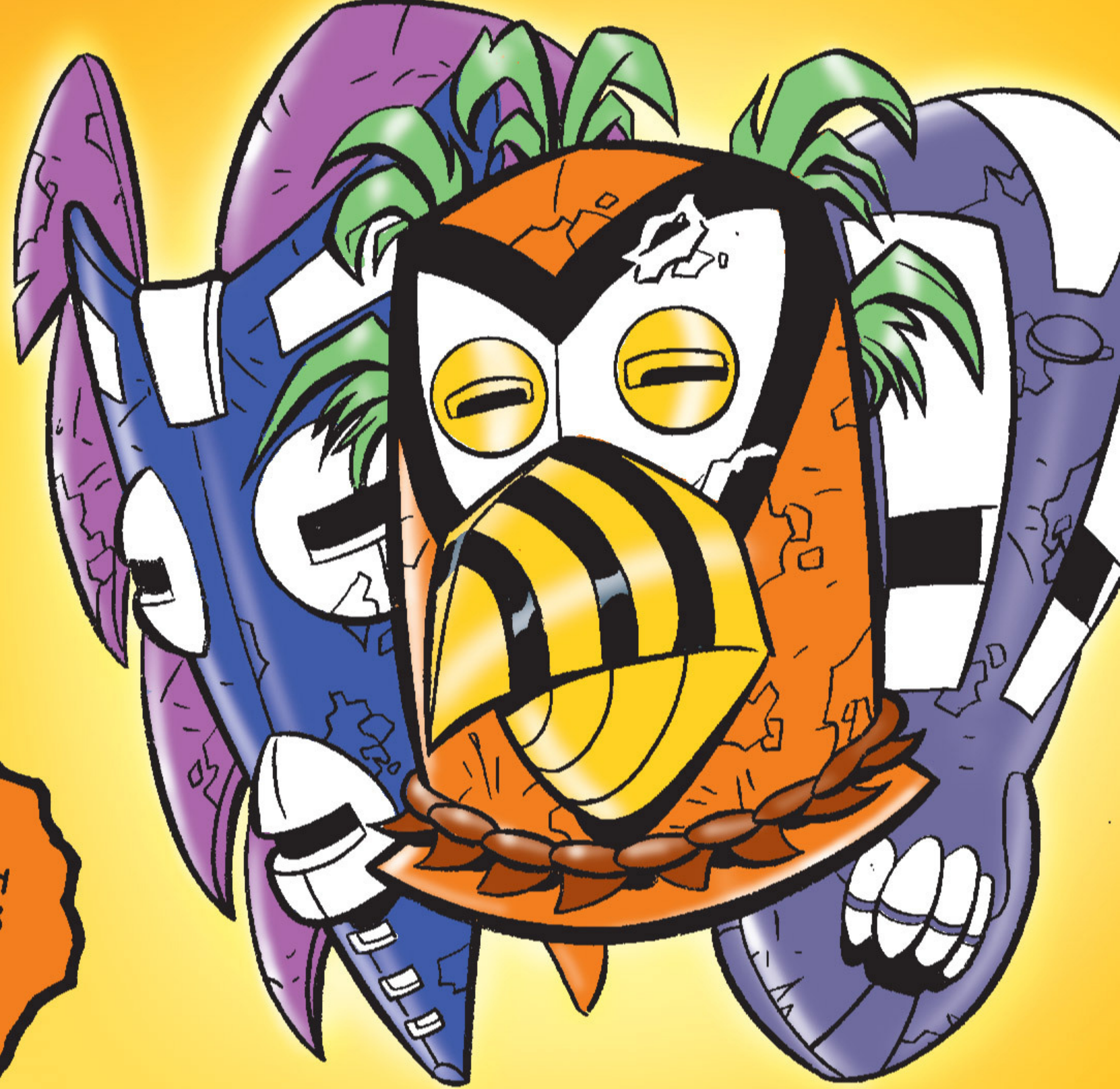
I HAVE HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT DIVINE INTERVENTION.

HOWEVER, THE GOD-LIKE ANCIENT WALKERS ARE EASY ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH.

MERLIN PROWER IS ON HIS WAY.

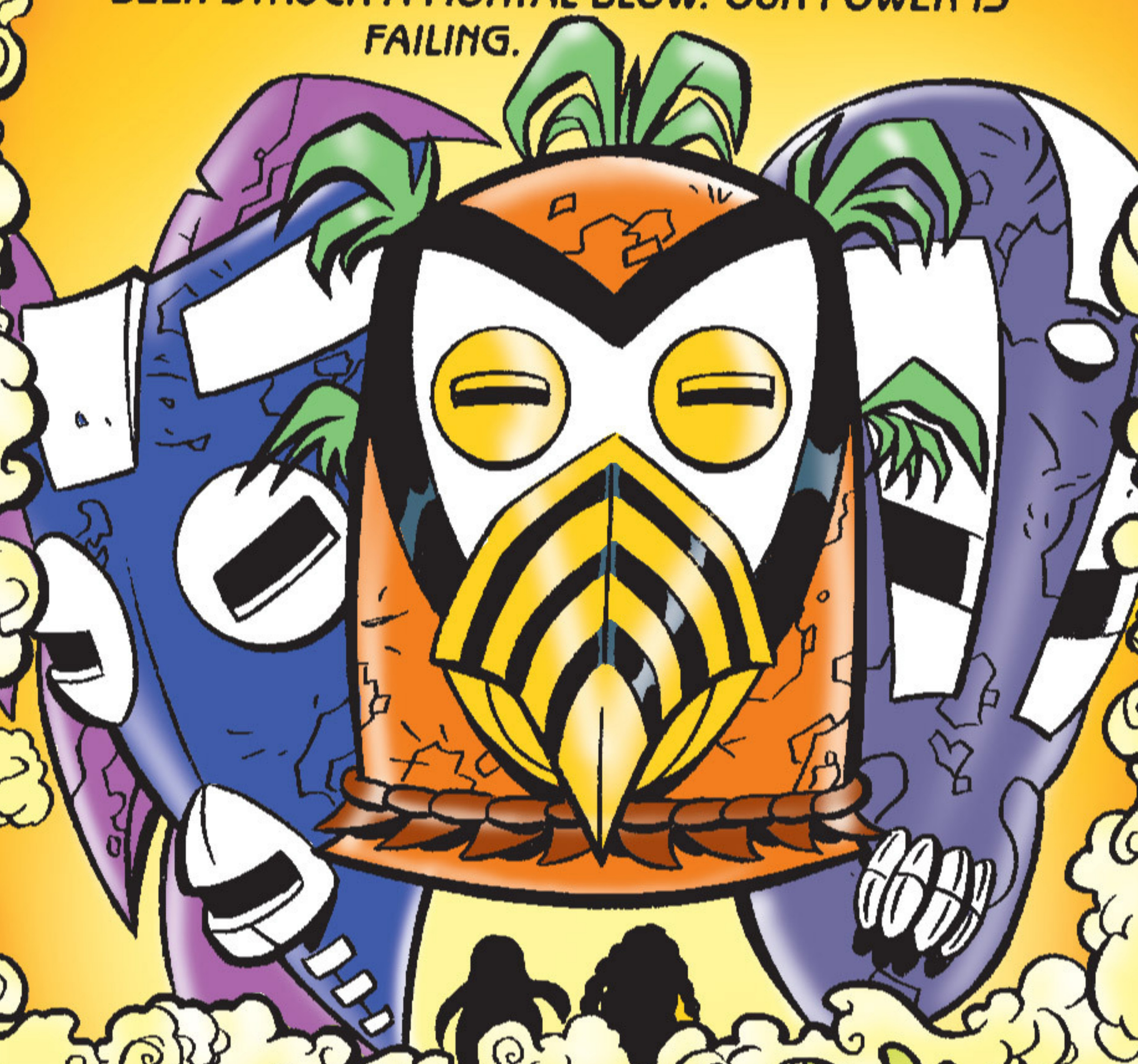
PLEASE HOLD ON JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

OUR PRESERVATION IS NO LONGER UNDER OUR CONTROL.



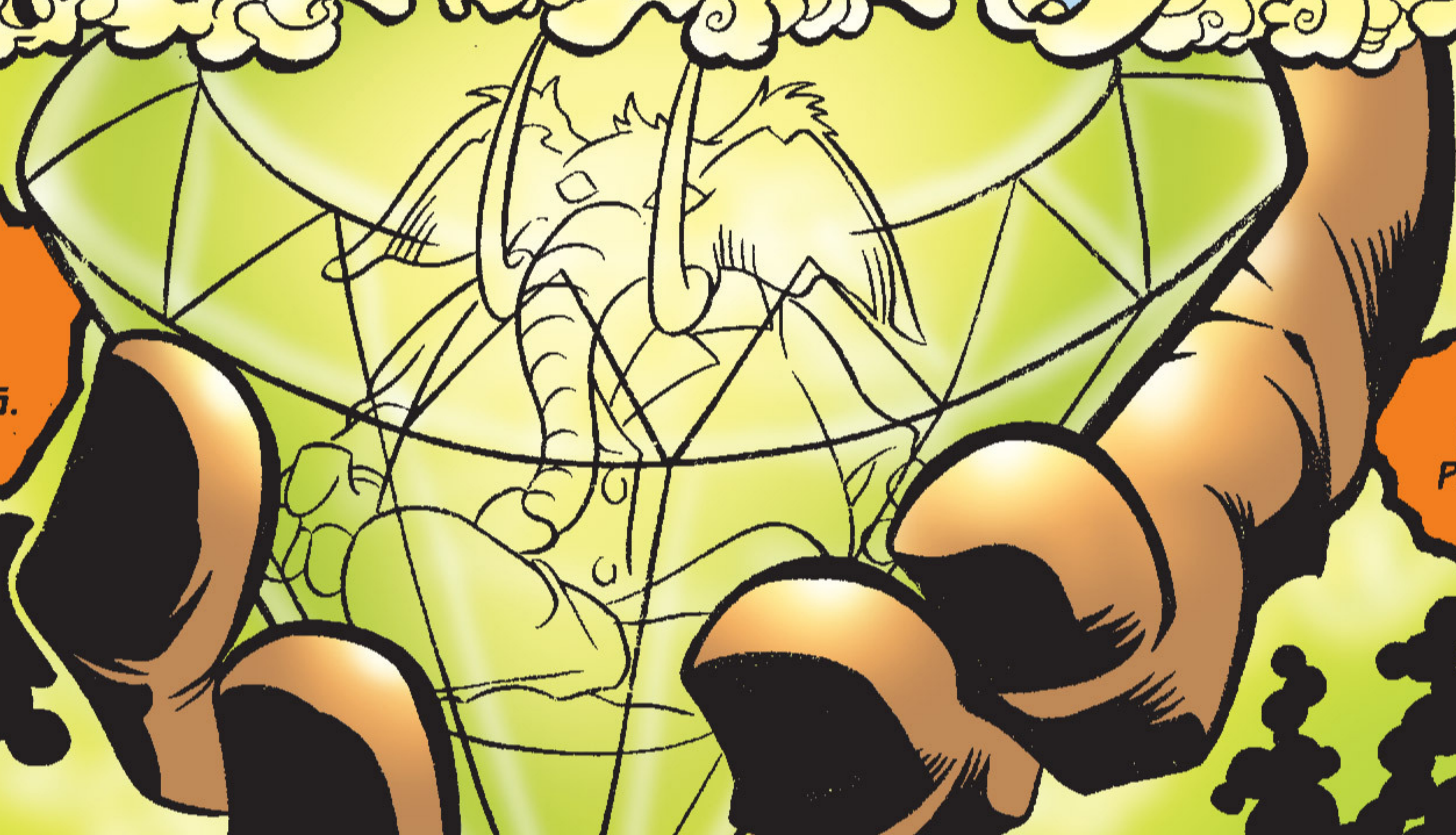
SINCE THE COMING OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS, WE HAVE WATCHED LIFE ON MOBIUS FLOURISH. WE HAVE JUDICIOUSLY ACTED TO PRESERVE THE WORLD FROM DARKNESS. FOR OUR DILIGENCE, WE HAVE BEEN STRUCK A MORTAL BLOW. OUR POWER IS FAILING.

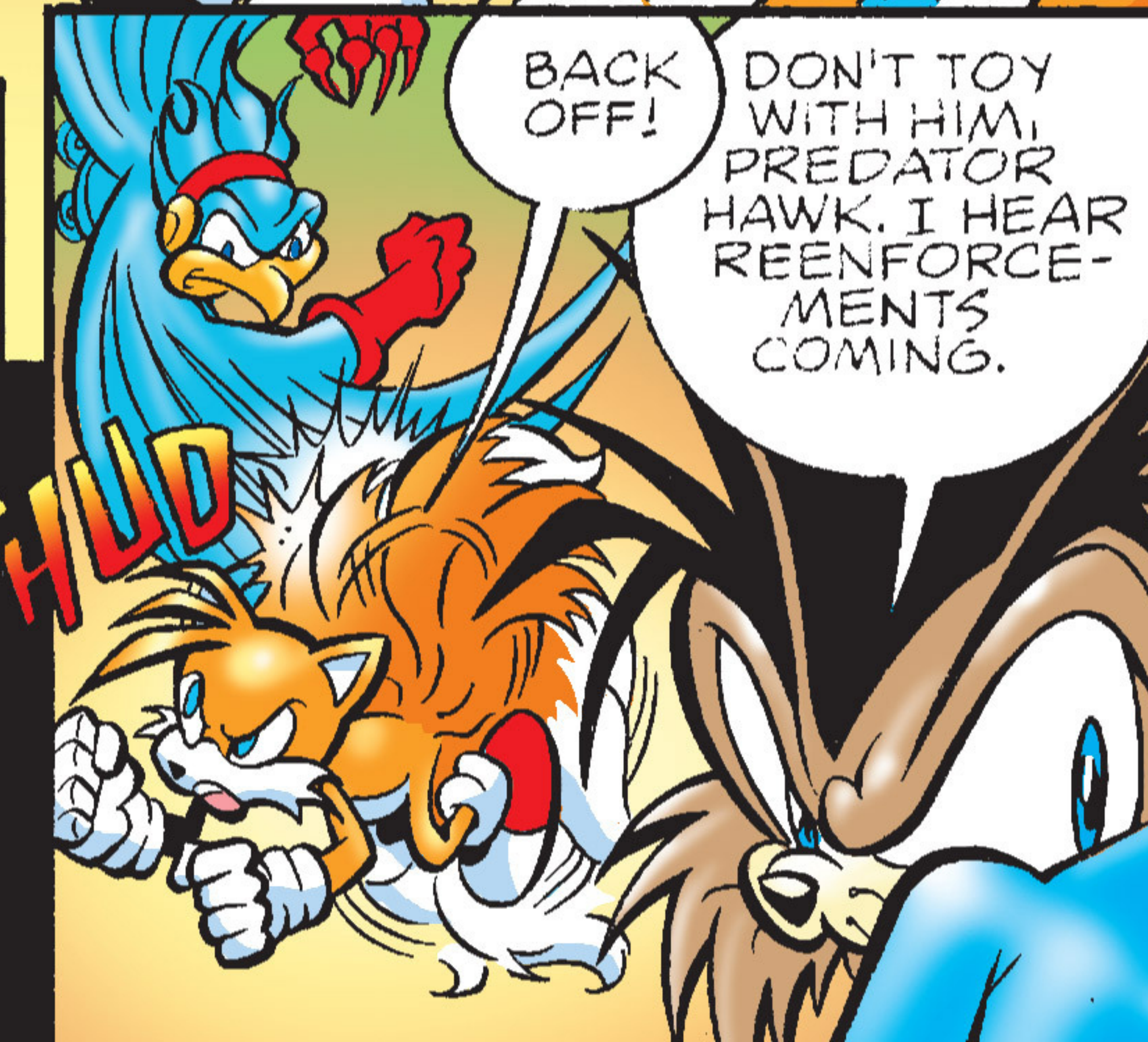
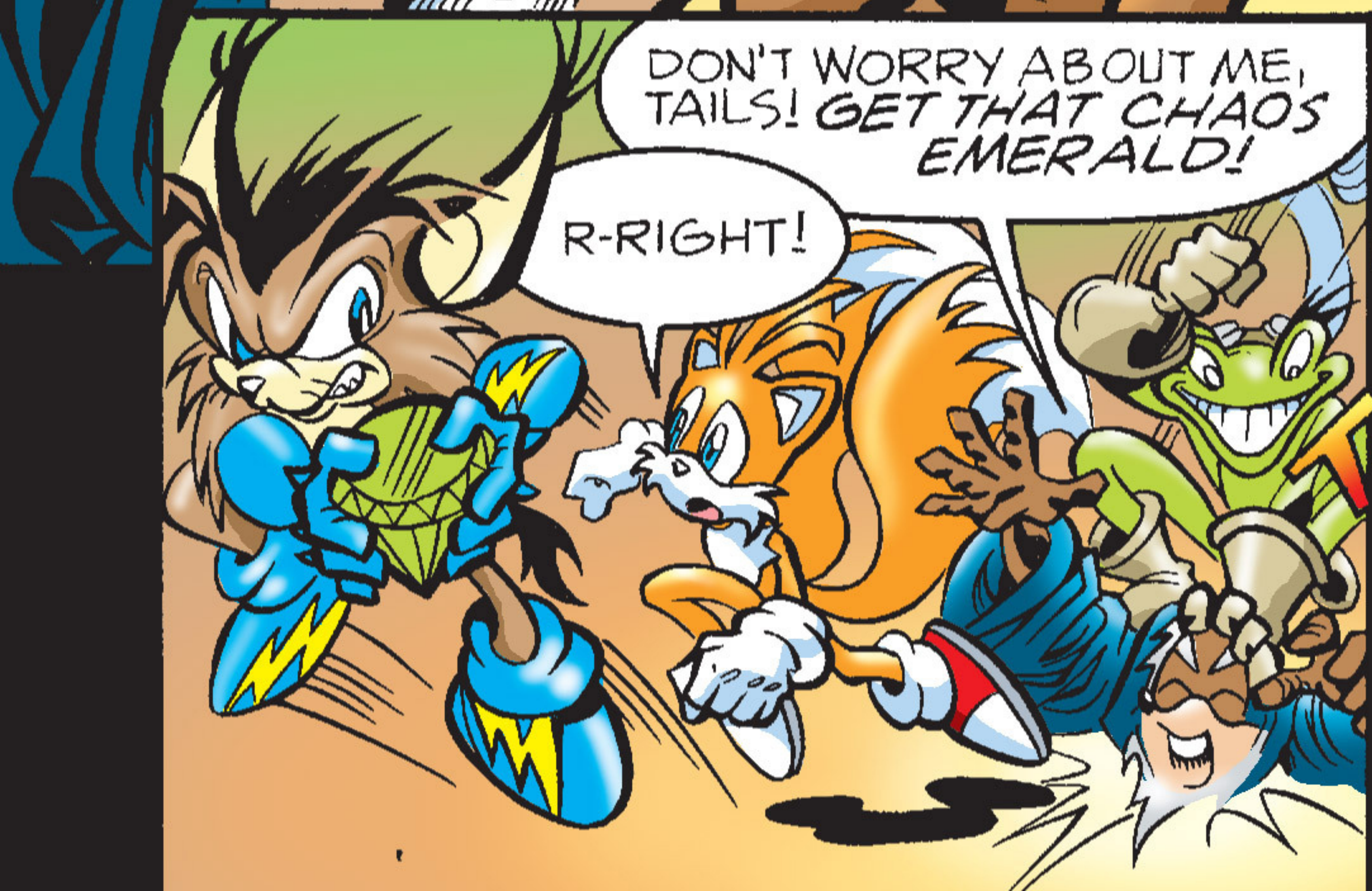
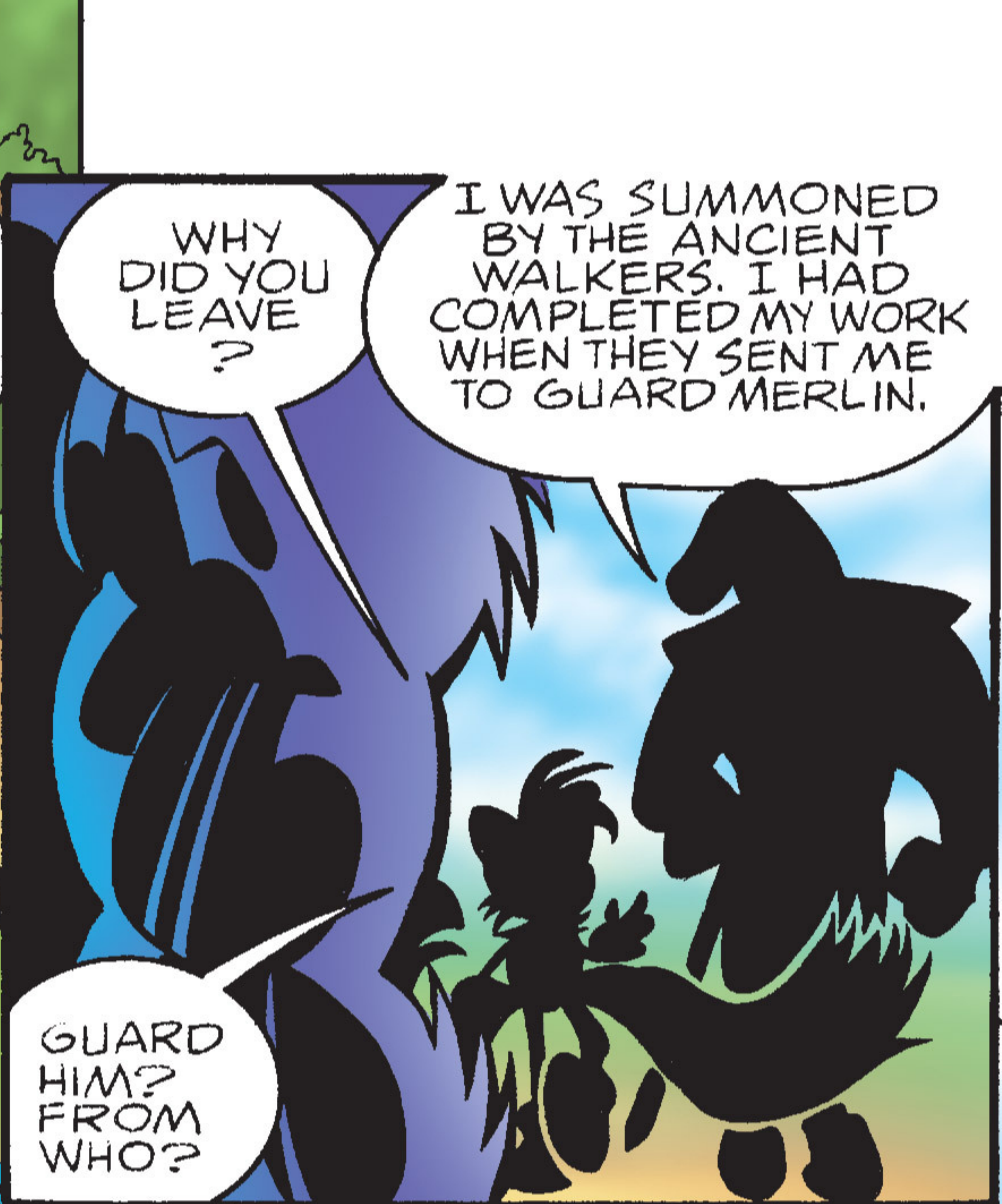
WE HAVE SELECTED YOU ... AURORA, YOU ... ATHAIR, AND MERLIN PROWER TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF THE CHAOS FORCE AND TO PROTECT THE WORLD IN OUR STEAD. OUR GRIP ON LIFE IS SLIPPING. ANY ONE EVENT COULD TAKE US AWAY.



WE FORESEE A GREAT STORM APPROACHING.

YOU MUST BE PREPARED.

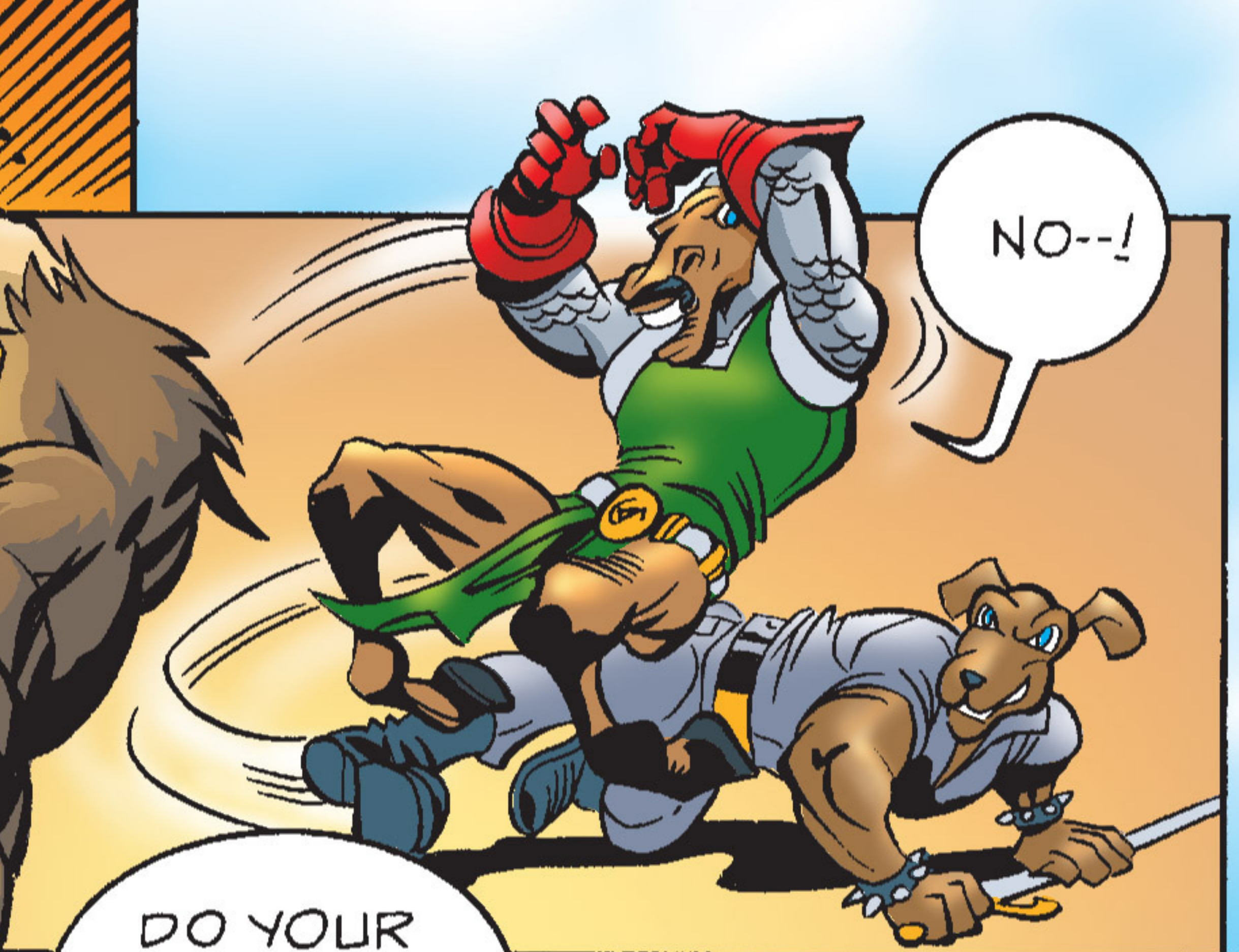




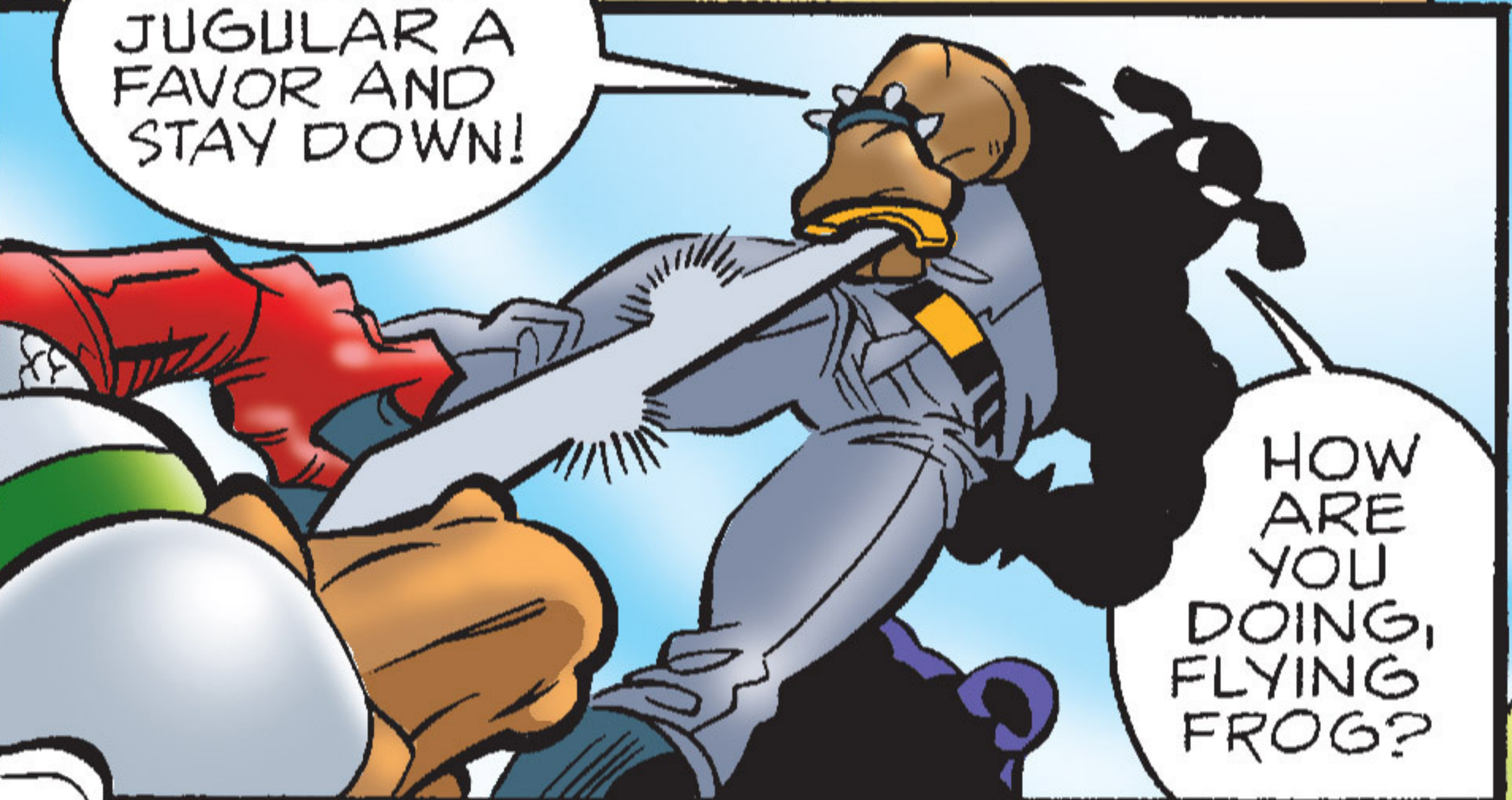




VARLET!  
YOU SHALL  
BE SMOTE!

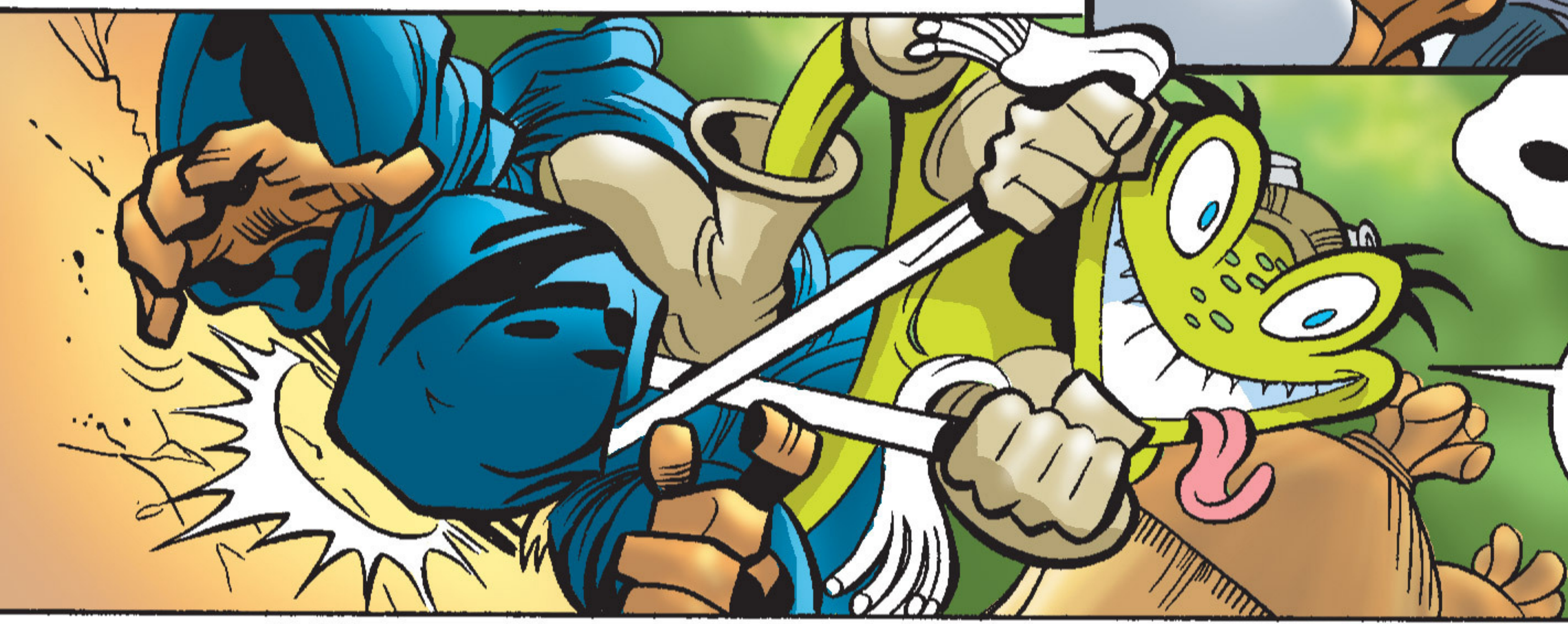


NO--!



DO YOUR  
JUGULAR A  
FAVOR AND  
STAY DOWN!

HOW  
ARE  
YOU  
DOING,  
FLYING  
FROG?

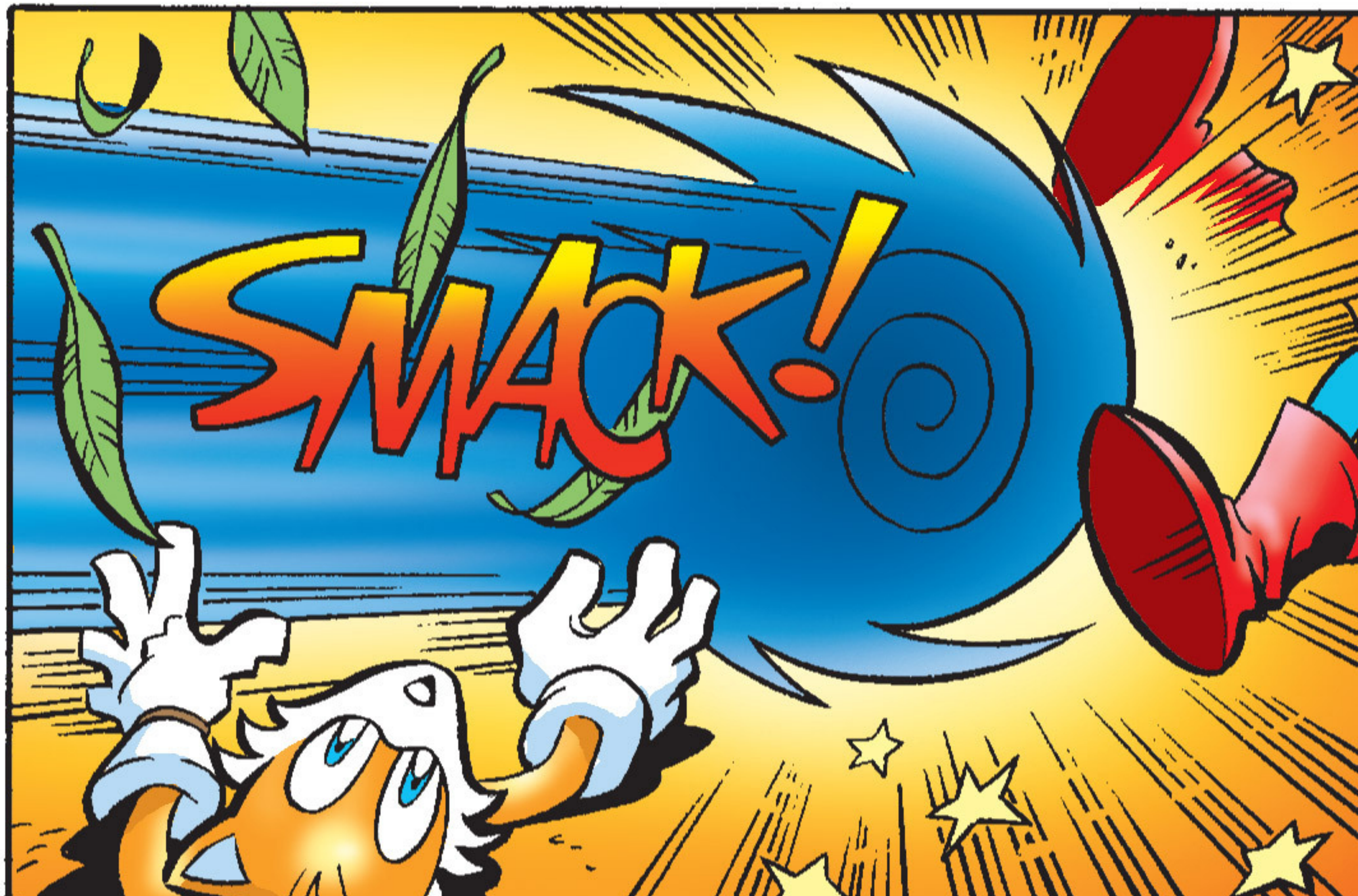


CAN'T CAST A  
SPELL IF HE CAN'T  
TAKE A BREATH!

HOW'S YOUR  
DINNER  
COMING,  
PREDATOR  
HAWK?



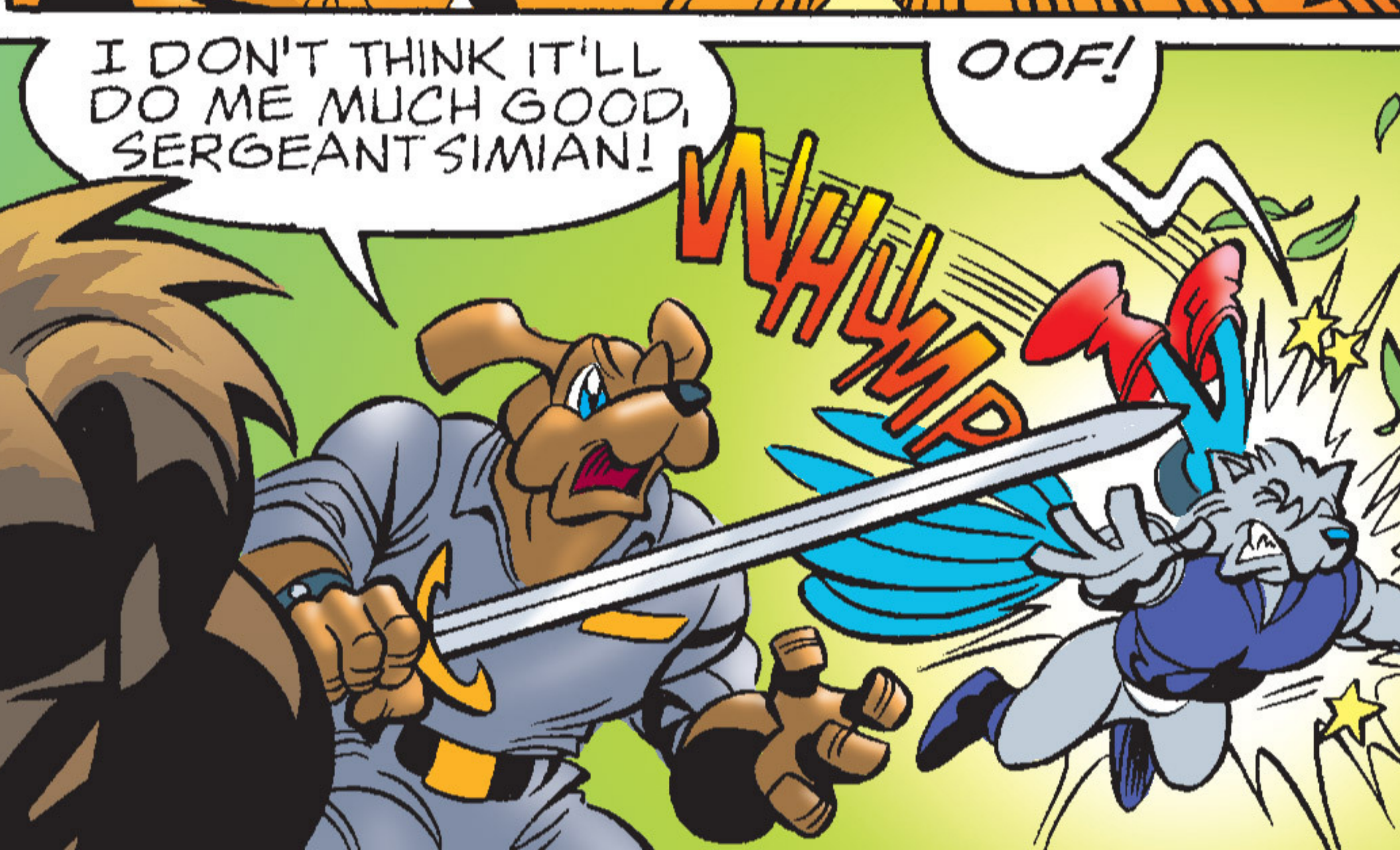
ALL  
TOO  
EASY.



SMACK!



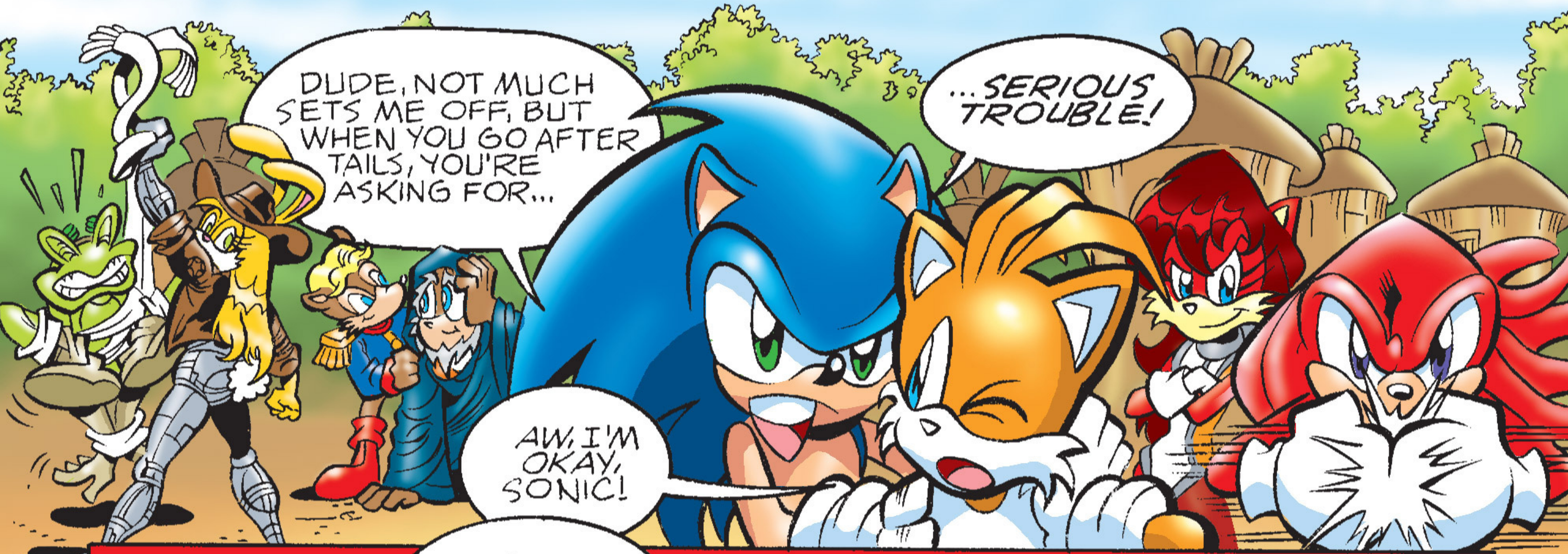
GET THAT  
SWORD  
READY,  
SLEUTH  
DOGG.



I DON'T THINK IT'LL  
DO ME MUCH GOOD,  
SERGEANT SIMIAN!

OOH!

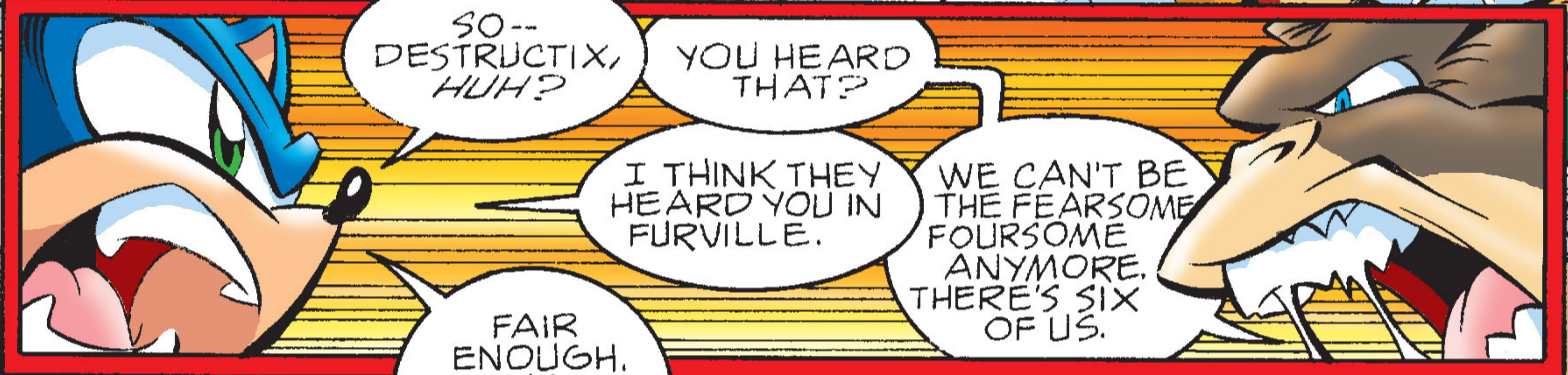
WHUMP



DUDE, NOT MUCH SETS ME OFF, BUT WHEN YOU GO AFTER TAILS, YOU'RE ASKING FOR...

...SERIOUS TROUBLE!

AW, I'M OKAY, SONIC!



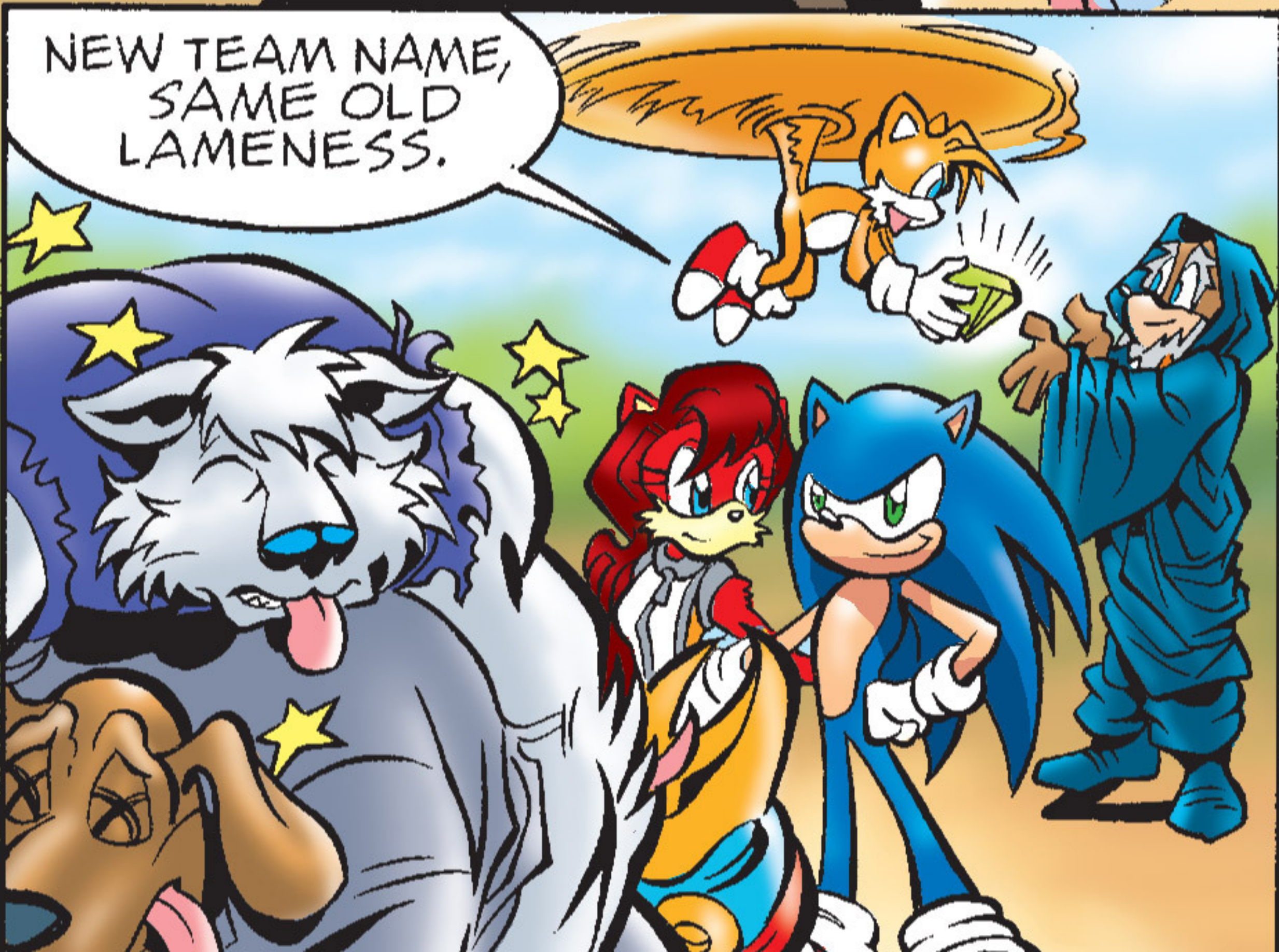
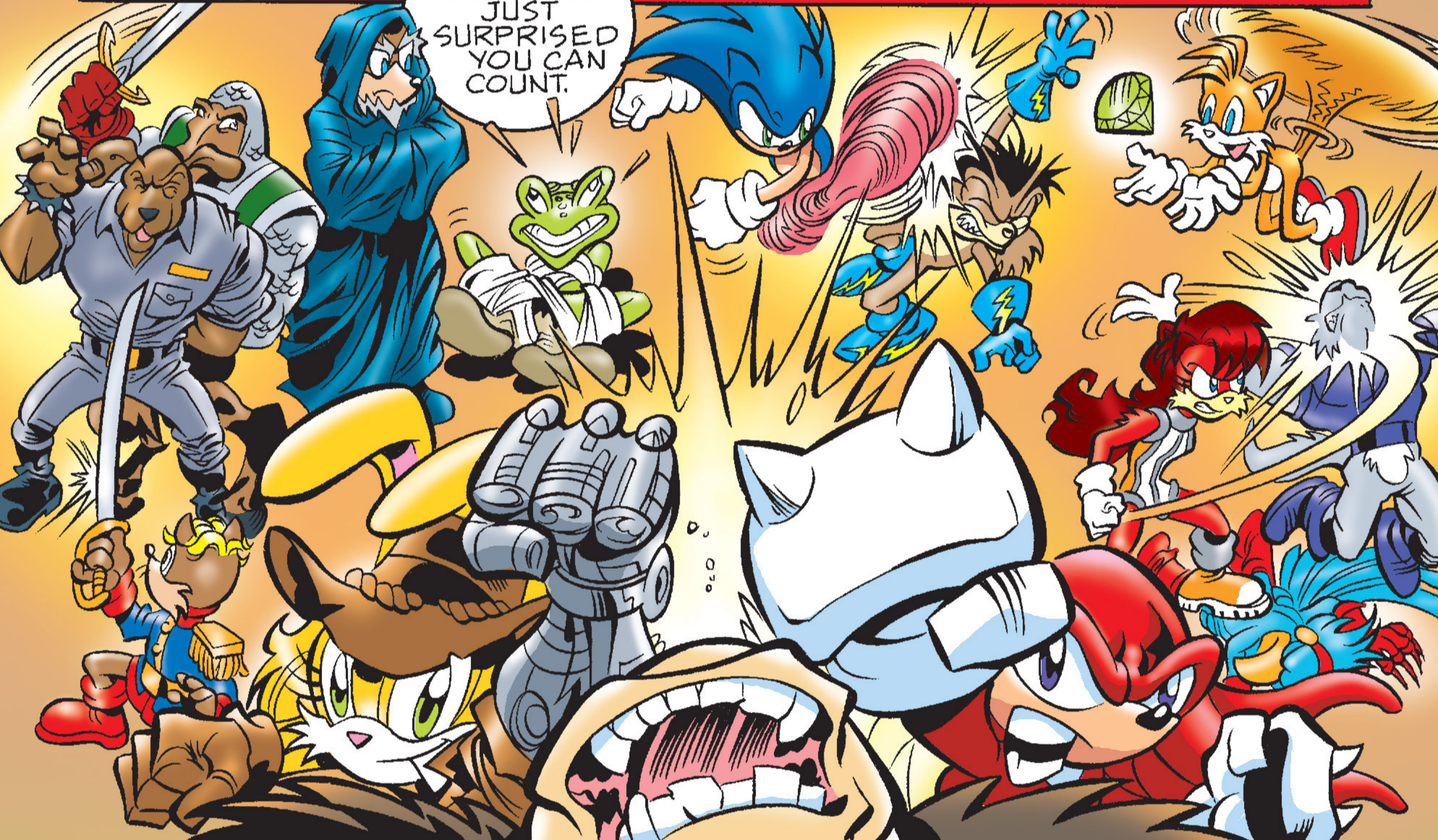
SO-- DESTRUCTIX, HUH?

YOU HEARD THAT?

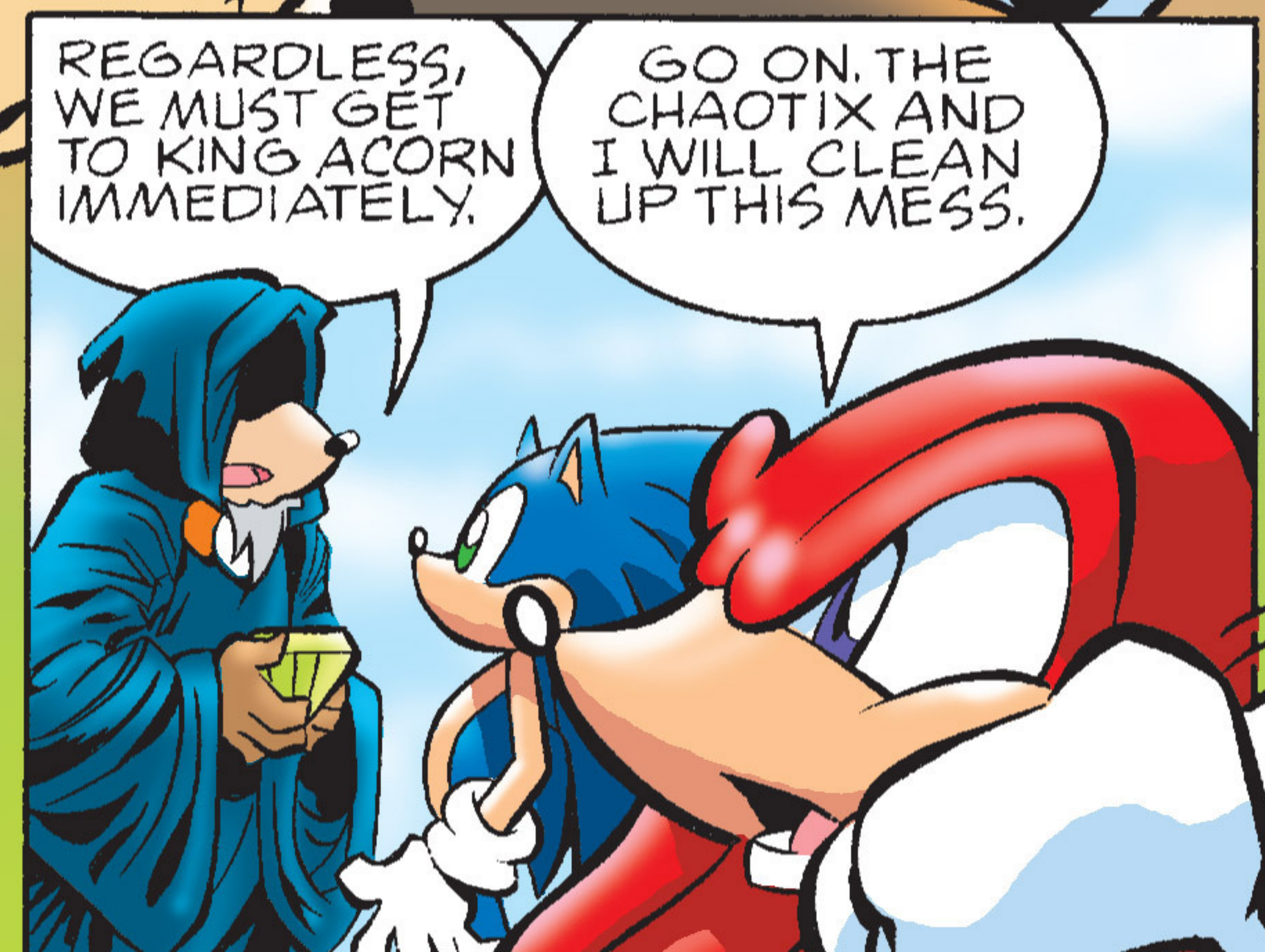
I THINK THEY HEARD YOU IN FURVILLE.

WE CAN'T BE THE FEARSOME FOURSOME ANYMORE, THERE'S SIX OF US.

FAIR ENOUGH, JUST SURPRISED YOU CAN COUNT.



NEW TEAM NAME, SAME OLD LAMENESS.



REGARDLESS, WE MUST GET TO KING ACORN IMMEDIATELY.

GO ON, THE CHAOTIX AND I WILL CLEAN UP THIS MESS.

A NEW KING,  
OLD HEROES,  
SAME FATE.

EACH UNAWARE  
THAT THEIR  
WORK WILL BE  
FOR NAUGHT.

YOUR TIMING COULDN'T  
BE BETTER! MERLIN  
PROWER! SIR CONNERY!  
PLEASE RISE AND TELL  
ME WHAT HAS BROUGHT  
YOU HOME.



I WAS CALLED FROM YOUR  
FATHER'S SERVICE BY THE  
ANCIENT WALKERS. THEY  
GAVE ME THIS--THE **SWORD  
OF LIGHT**--TO PURGE THE  
WORLD OF DARK MAGIC.  
WITH THAT DUTY FINISHED,  
THEY CHARGED ME WITH  
GUARDING MERLIN PROWER  
AND HIS PRECIOUS  
CAPTIVE.

CAPTIVE?

MAMMOTH MOGUL, MY  
LORD--RECENTLY  
DEFEATED AND TRAPPED  
WITHIN HIS OWN CHAOS  
EMERALD.\* HE FELL  
TO A TRAP SET BY THE  
ANCIENT WALKERS  
LONG AGO.

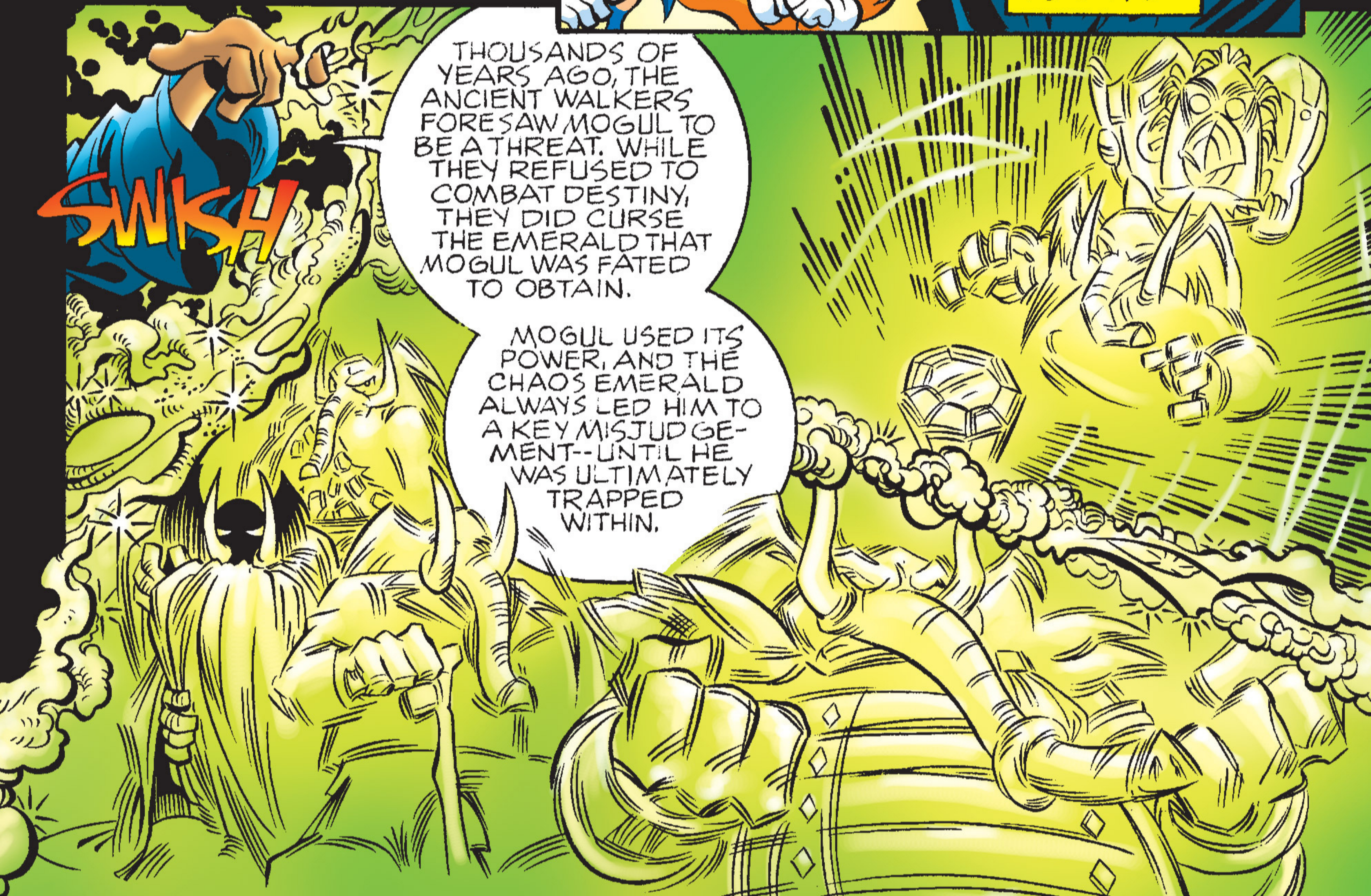


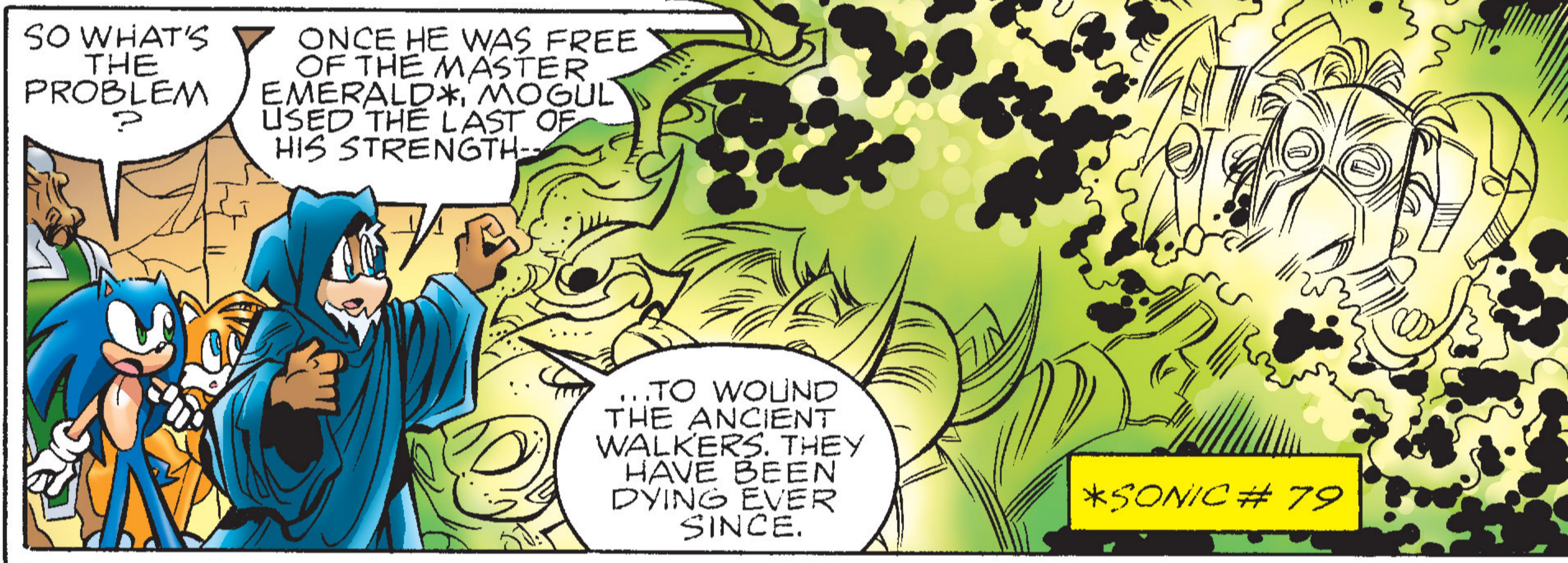
\*S # 149

THOUSANDS OF  
YEARS AGO, THE  
ANCIENT WALKERS  
FORESAW MOGUL TO  
BE A THREAT. WHILE  
THEY REFUSED TO  
COMBAT DESTINY,  
THEY DID CURSE  
THE EMERALD THAT  
MOGUL WAS FATED  
TO OBTAIN.

MOGUL USED ITS  
POWER, AND THE  
CHAOS EMERALD  
ALWAYS LED HIM TO  
A KEY MISJUDGE-  
MENT--UNTIL HE  
WAS ULTIMATELY  
TRAPPED  
WITHIN.

**SNKSH**



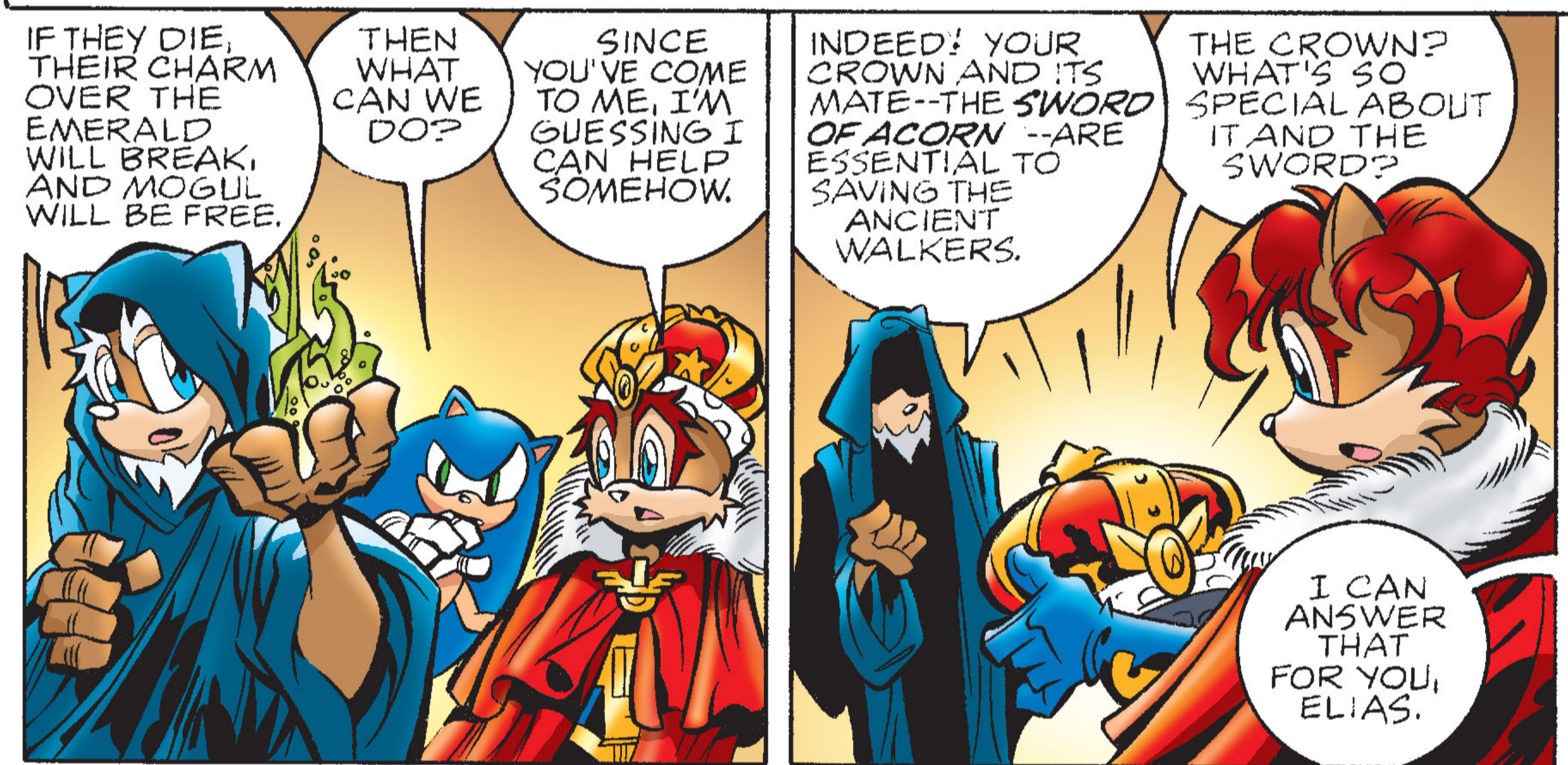


SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

ONCE HE WAS FREE OF THE MASTER EMERALD\*, MOGUL USED THE LAST OF HIS STRENGTH--

...TO WOUND THE ANCIENT WALKERS. THEY HAVE BEEN DYING EVER SINCE.

\*SONIC # 79



IF THEY DIE, THEIR CHARM OVER THE EMERALD WILL BREAK, AND MOGUL WILL BE FREE.

THEN WHAT CAN WE DO?

SINCE YOU'VE COME TO ME, I'M GUESSING I CAN HELP SOMEHOW.

INDEED! YOUR CROWN AND ITS MATE--THE *SWORD OF ACORN*--ARE ESSENTIAL TO SAVING THE ANCIENT WALKERS.

THE CROWN? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT AND THE SWORD?

I CAN ANSWER THAT FOR YOU, ELIAS.

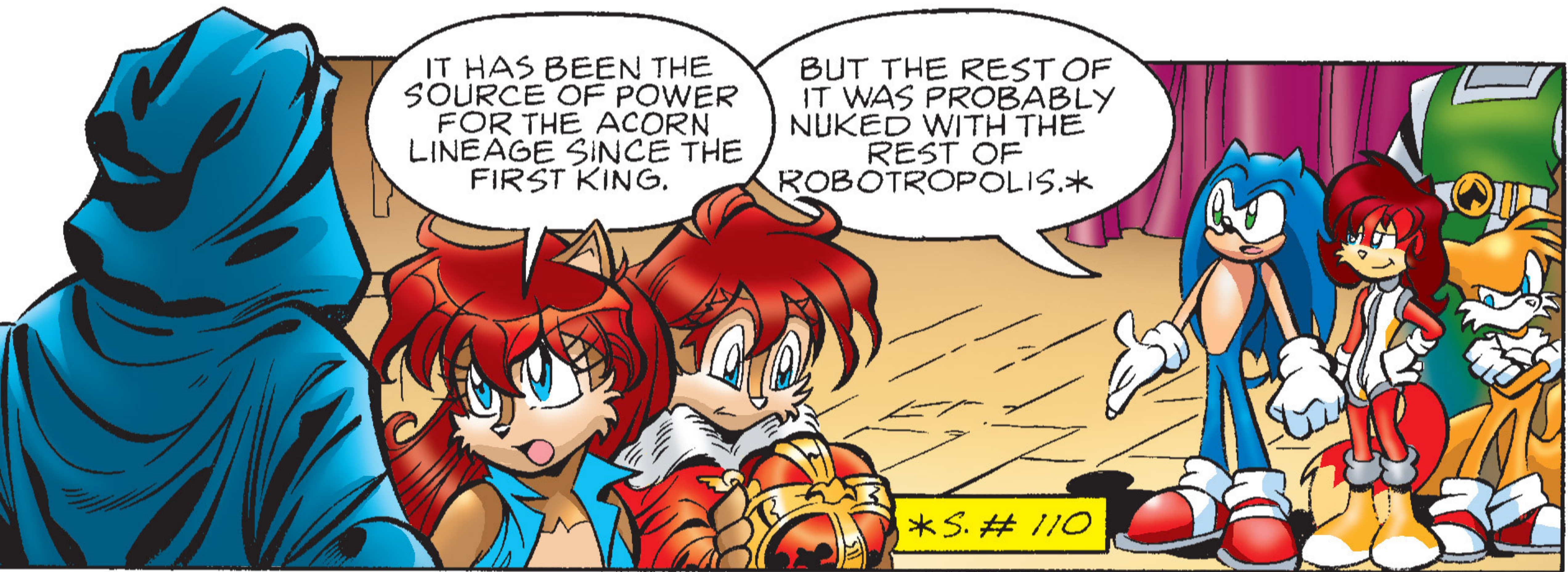


SALLY!

I DEALT WITH BOTH PERSONALLY, BROTHER.



THEY WERE MADE FROM A PURE SAMPLE OF THE *SOURCE OF ALL*--THE SUBSTANCE THAT IS THE BASE MATERIAL FOR EVERYTHING. THEY CAN CHANNEL AND PRODUCE VAST AMOUNTS OF MAGICAL ENERGY.



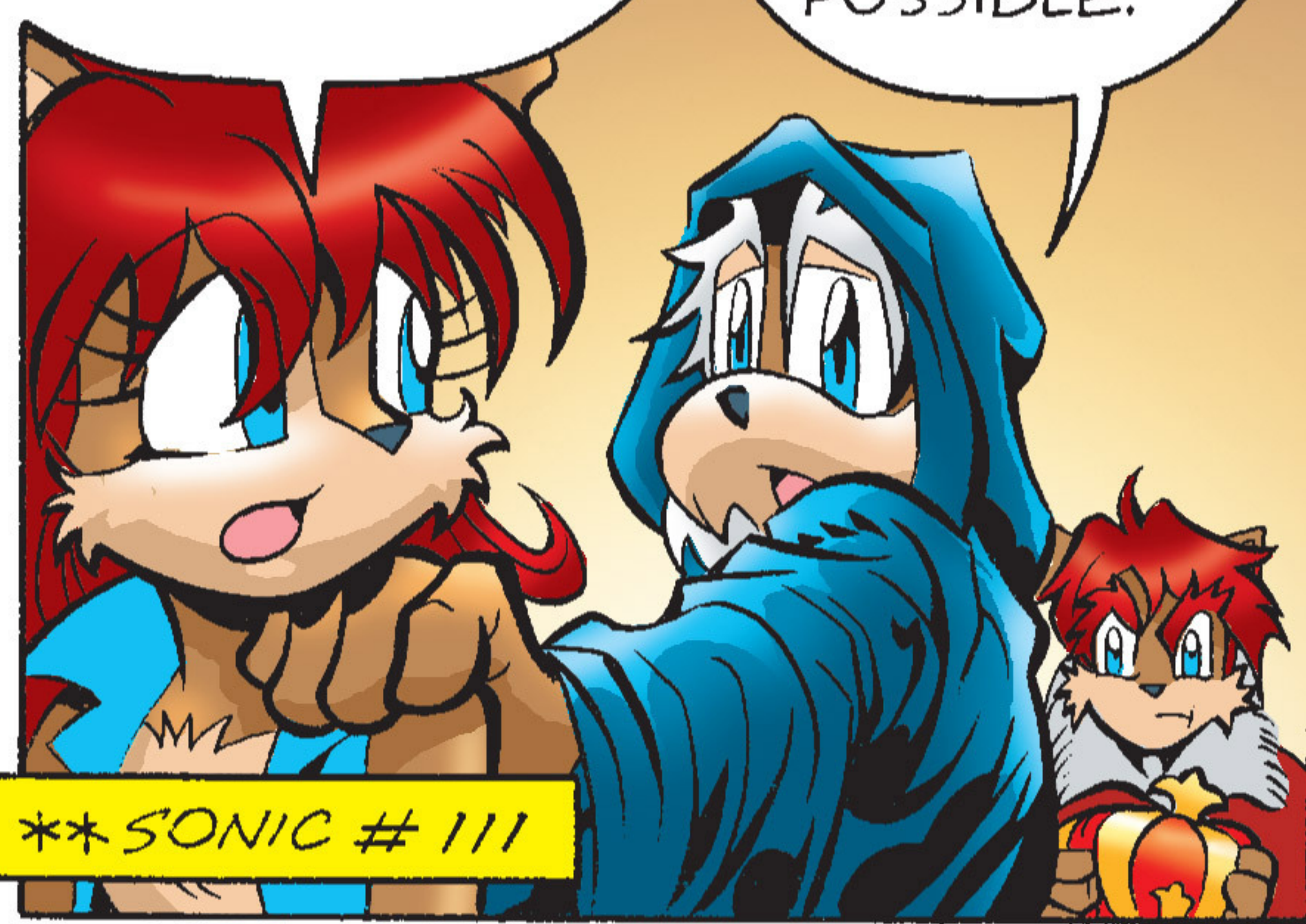
IT HAS BEEN THE SOURCE OF POWER FOR THE ACORN LINEAGE SINCE THE FIRST KING.

BUT THE REST OF IT WAS PROBABLY NUKED WITH THE REST OF ROBOTROPOLIS.\*

\*S.# 110

I GAVE THE SWORD OF ACORNS TO THE ORPHANS OF UMA ARACHNIS WHEN IT SEEMED TO BE GROWING TOO... COMMANDING.\*\*

I WAS AFRAID THEY WOULD BE SEPARATED. WE MUST FIND THE SWORD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

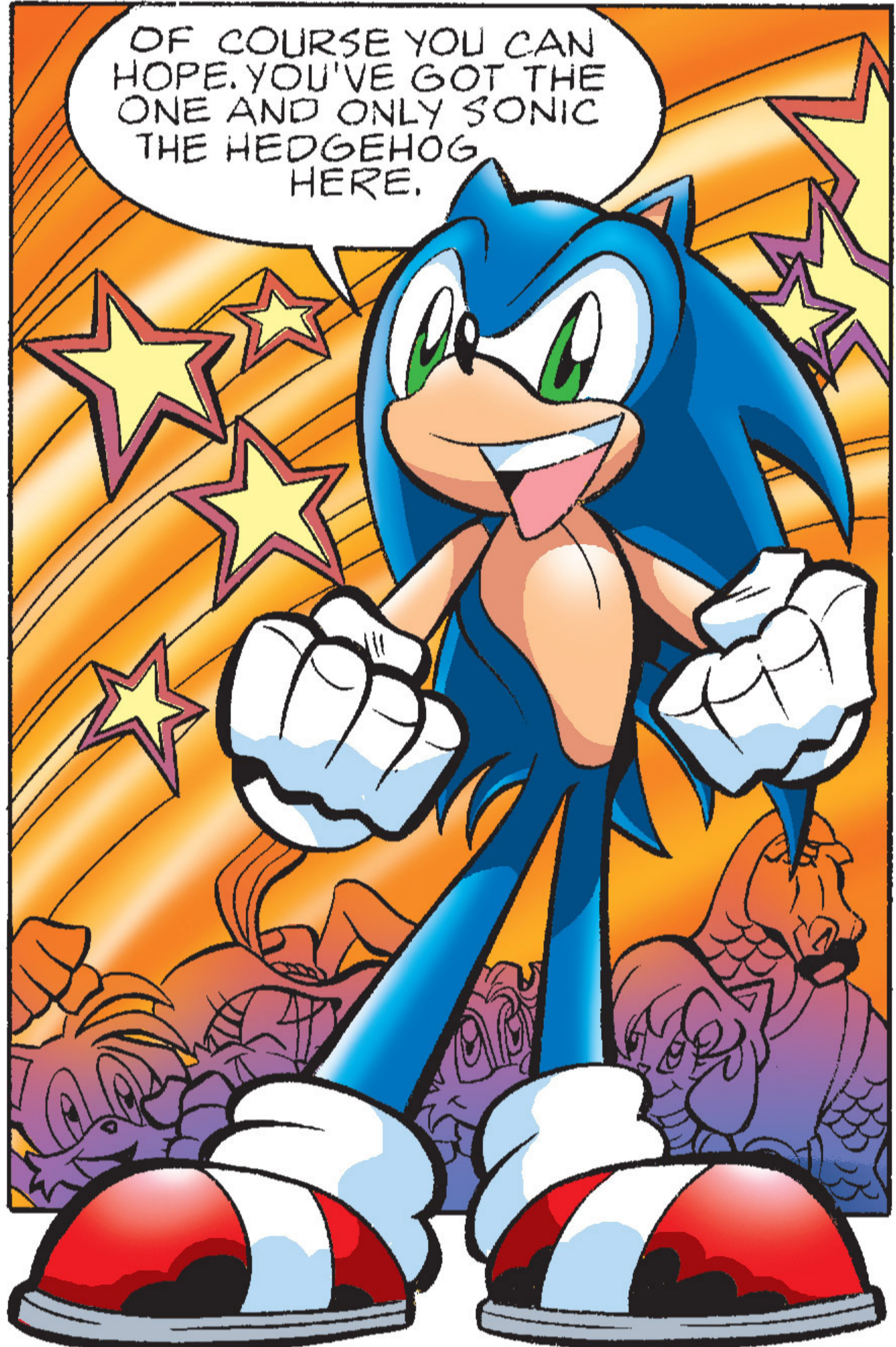


\*\*SONIC # 111



YOU WON'T START YOUR SEARCH EMPTY-HANDED. I CAN GIVE THE CROWN OF ACORNS TO PROTECT MY PEOPLE FROM A FUTURE THREAT.

THANK YOU, KING ELIAS. THAT MEANS WE CAN STILL HOPE.



OF COURSE YOU CAN HOPE. YOU'VE GOT THE ONE AND ONLY SONIC THE HEDGEHOG HERE.



I HOPE THOSE CRAZY KIDS HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING STUPID WITH THE SWORD.

I TELL YA, KIDS,  
I COULD LOOK AT  
THESE HOPELESS  
EXPRESSIONS  
ALL DAY.

AH, HOW  
BITTER-SWEET!  
ONE TORTURE  
ENDS WHERE  
ANOTHER ONE  
BEGI--

BIOFIELD-DELETION  
COMPLETE, FATHER.

**SMASH**

EGAD!

AT LAST--  
I STRIKE!

A.D.A.M.! WHY ARE  
THE EGG GRAPES  
POWERING UP?!

I DO NOT KNOW, FATHER!  
THE EGG GRAPES ARE  
BEHAVING OUTSIDE OF  
THEIR PROGRAMMED  
PARAMETERS.

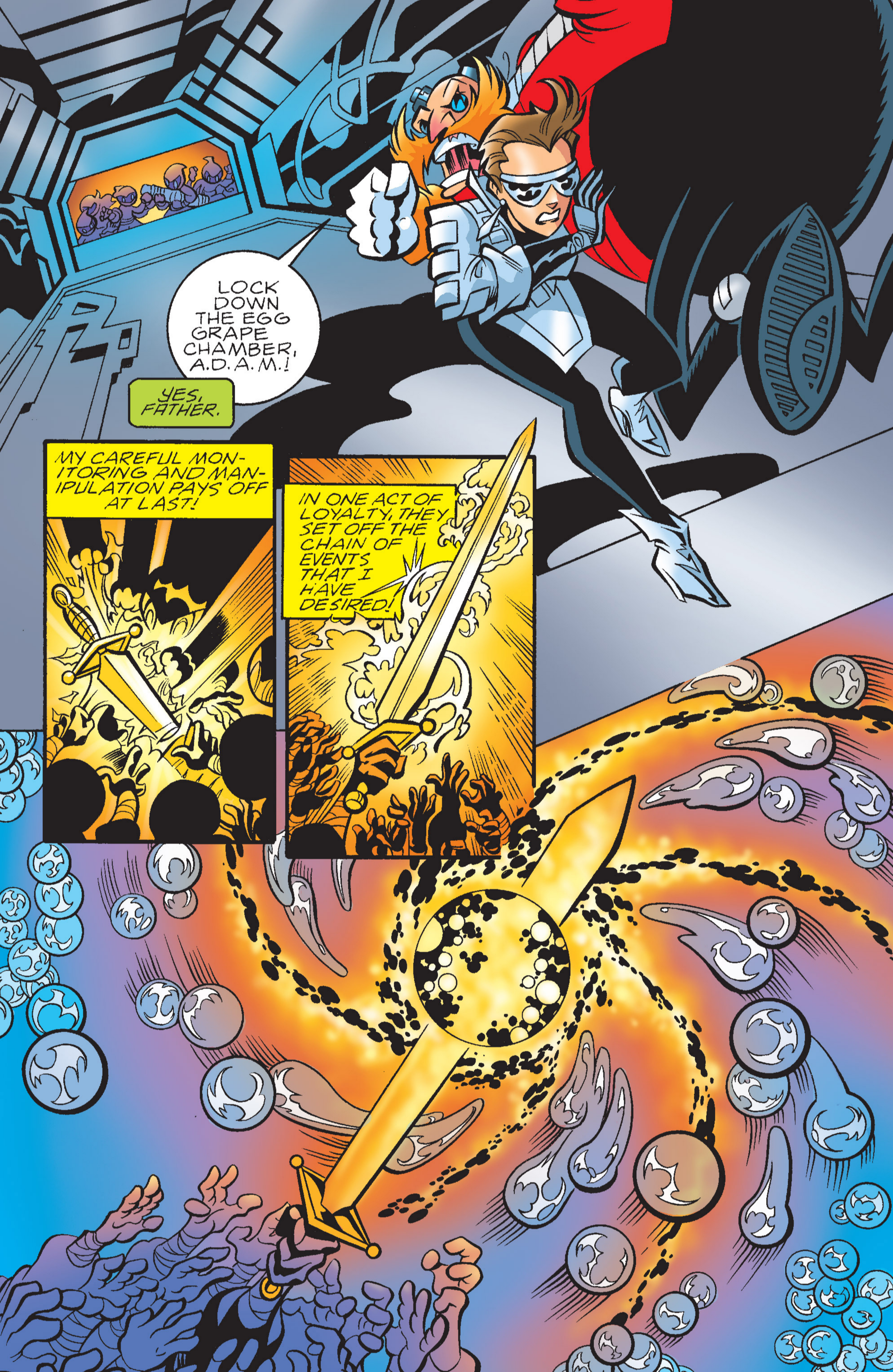
I CANNOT  
STOP THE  
PROCESS.

M! STOP  
PLAYING AROUND  
AND GET DADDY  
TO SAFETY!

YES,  
FATHER!

AHH!  
CAREFUL,  
MECHA!

**ZKAT!**



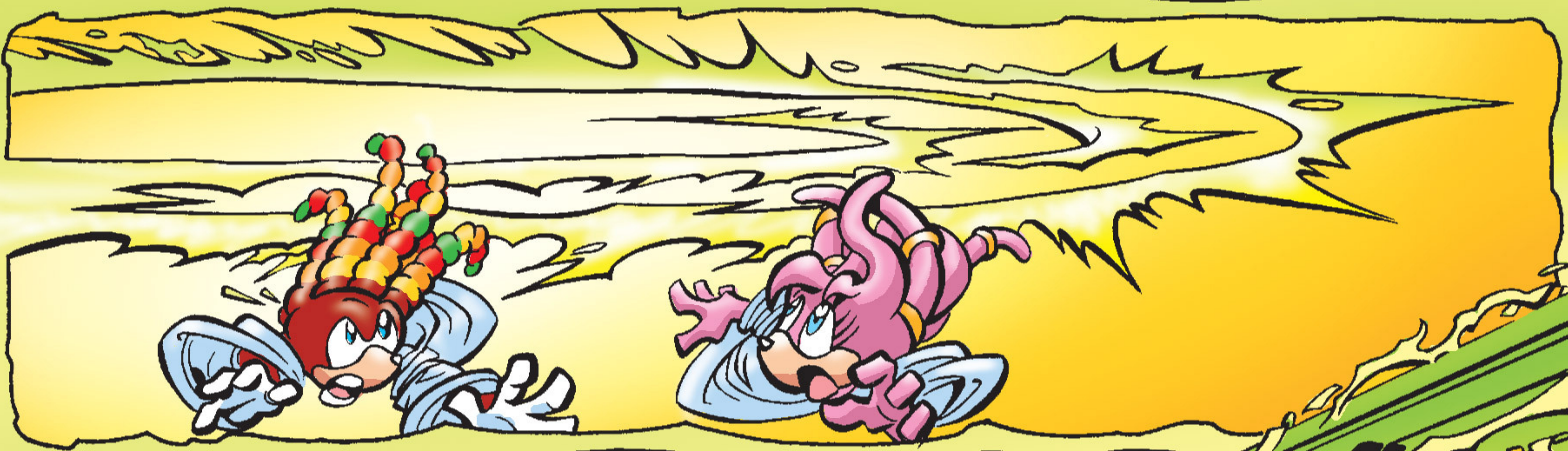
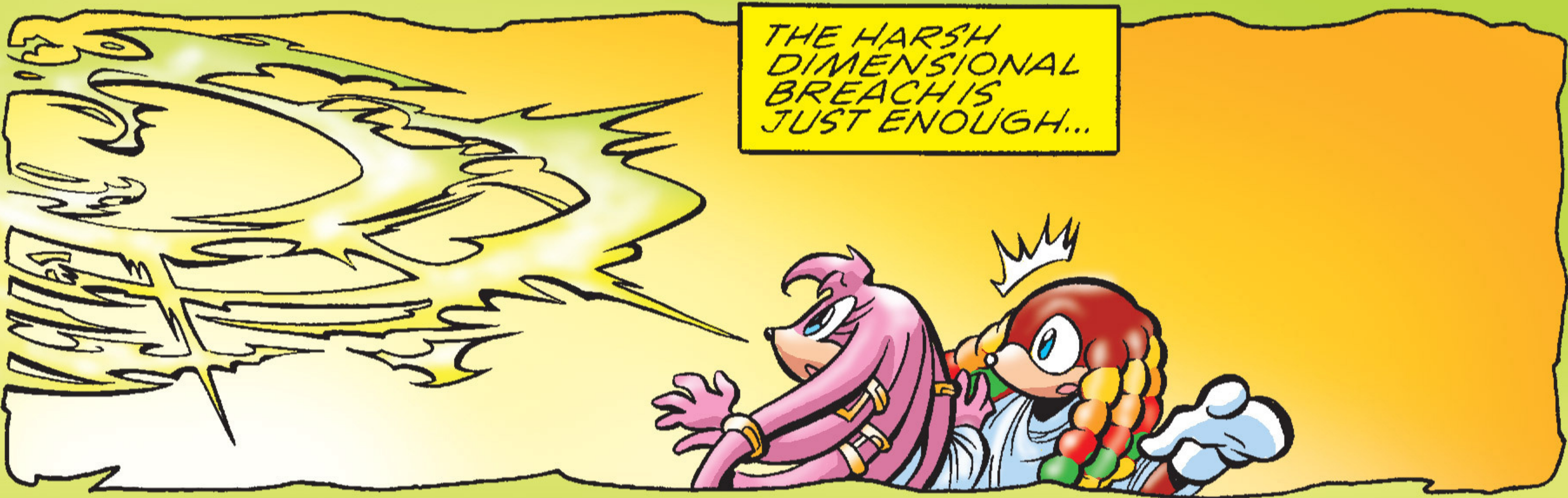
LOCK DOWN THE EGG GRAPE CHAMBER, A.D.A.M.!

YES, FATHER.

MY CAREFUL MONITORING AND MANIPULATION PAYS OFF AT LAST!

IN ONE ACT OF LOYALTY, THEY SET OFF THE CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT I HAVE DESIRED!

THE HARSH  
DIMENSIONAL  
BREACH IS  
JUST ENOUGH...



...TO PUSH THE  
ANCIENT  
WALKERS  
PAST THEIR  
LIMIT.

**no!**

FATES  
PRESERVE  
US...





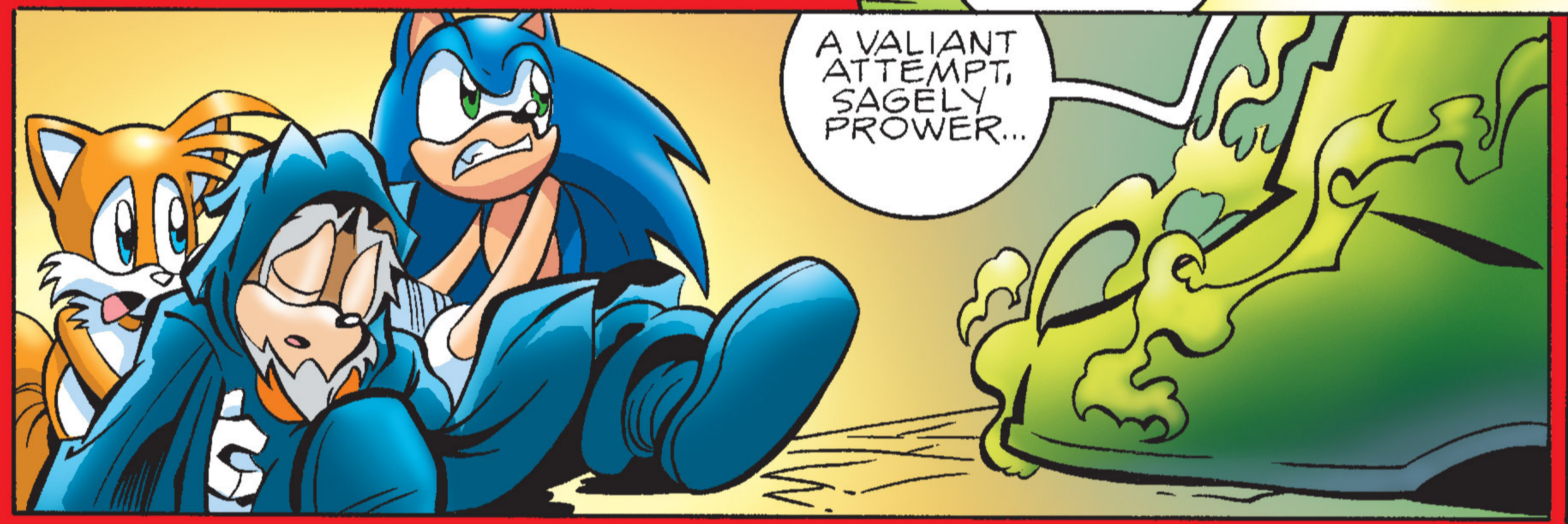


THANK YOU ALL, WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND THIS PROMISING BEGINNING, WE MAY NOW--

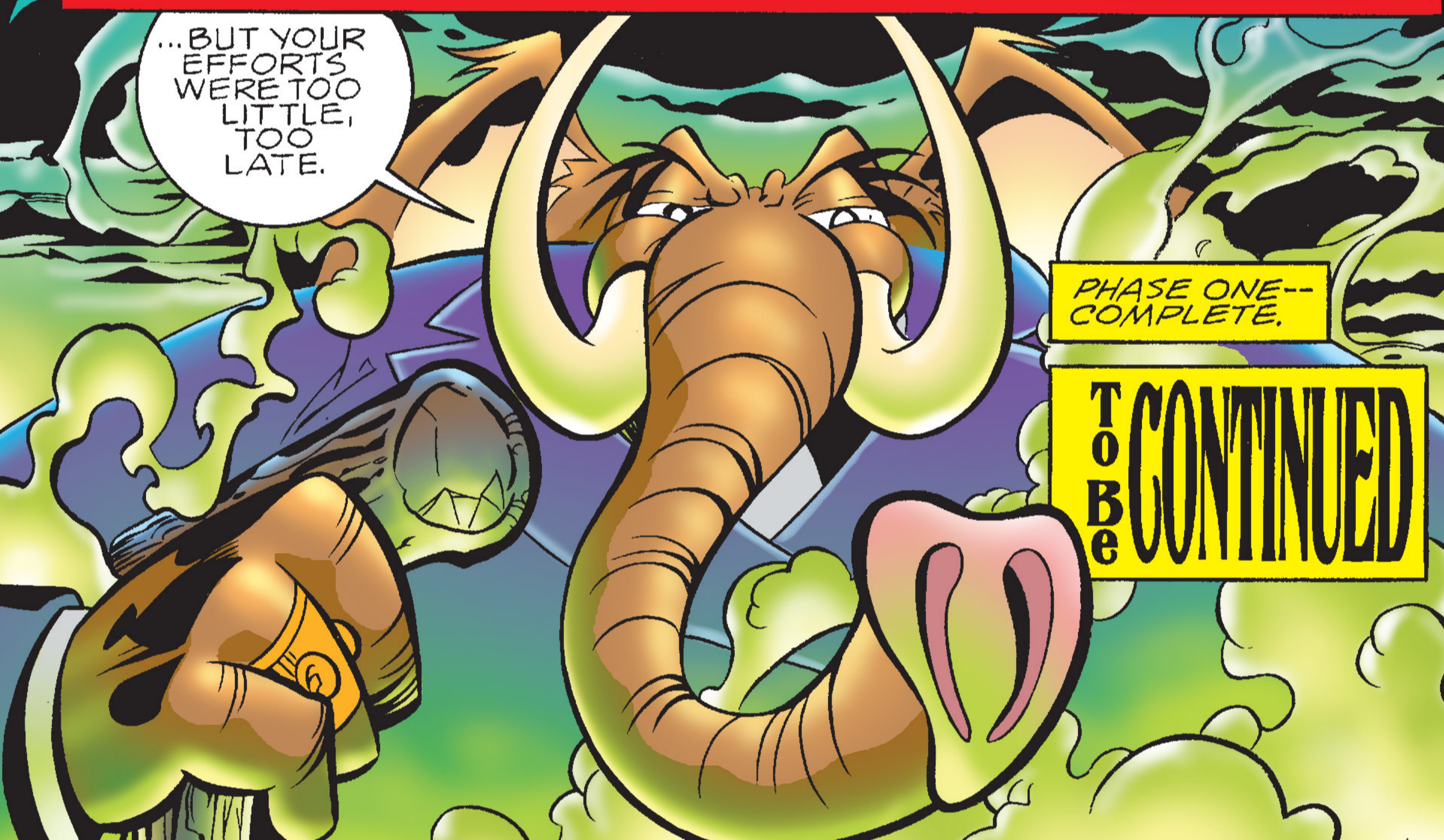


AUGH!

UNCLE MERLIN!



A VALIANT ATTEMPT, SAGELY PROWER...



...BUT YOUR EFFORTS WERE TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE.

PHASE ONE-- COMPLETE.

TO BE CONTINUED

**S**NIVELY KINTOBOR WAS ONCE DR. IVO "EGGMAN" ROBOTNIK'S CHIEF TOADY AND IS ONE OF HIS FEW REMAINING RELATIVES. THE OTHER, HOPE KINTOBOR, IS A YOUNG ORPHAN UNDER THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. NOW, LIKE HOPE, SNIVELY LIVES WITH SONIC AND HIS FRIENDS... BUT FOR HOW LONG?

**TIES THAT BIND**

WRITER  
IAM  
FLYNN

PENCILS  
TRACY  
YARDLEY!

COLORS  
J&A RAY  
LETTERS  
TERESA  
DAVIDSON

INKS  
JIM  
AMASH

WHAT AM I DOING HERE? I DON'T BELONG WITH SONIC AND HIS FRIENDS...  
...DO I?

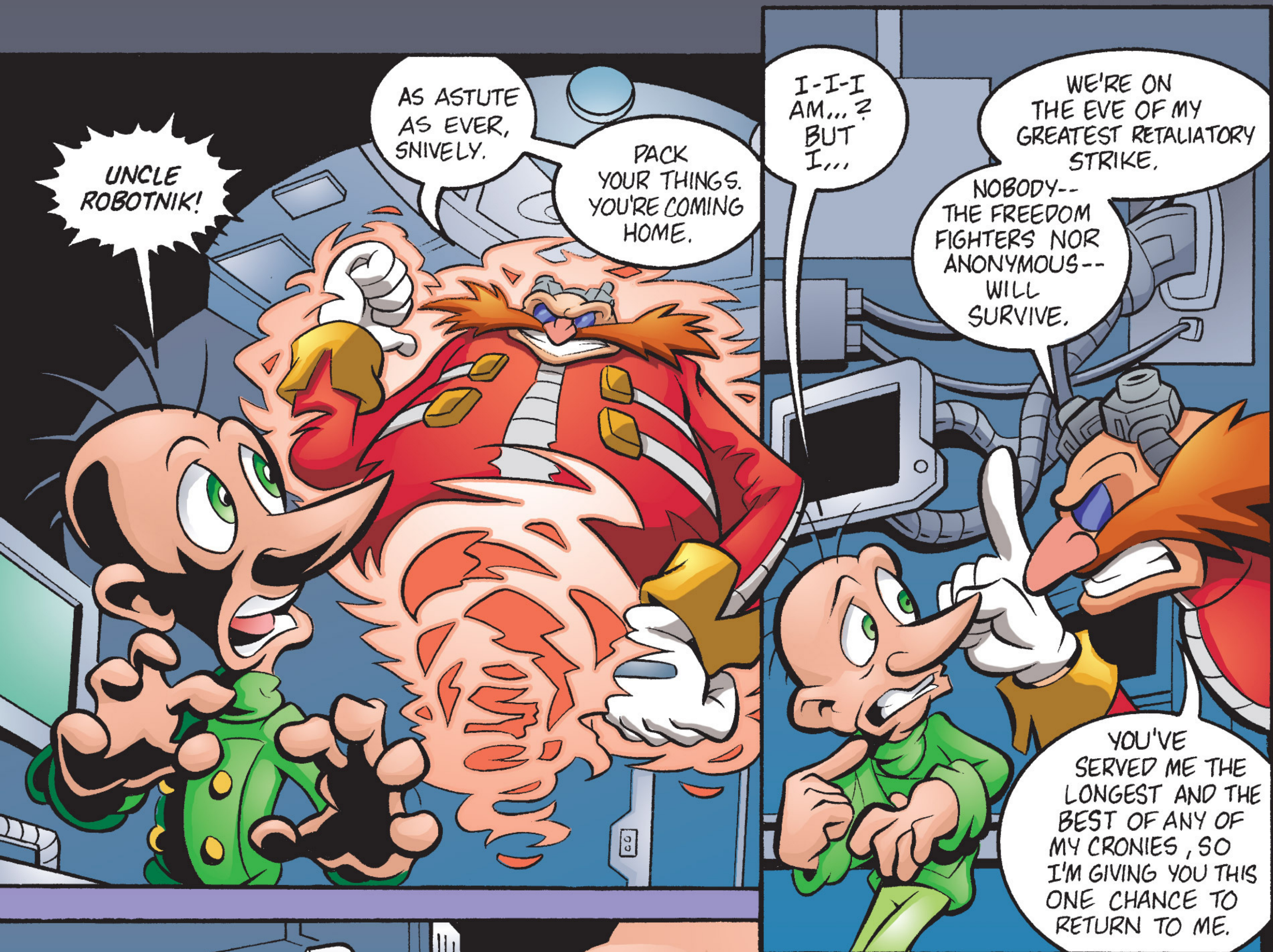
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN IN LEAGUE WITH SOME "VILLAINOUS" FORCE WHETHER I WAS A LACKEY OR THE LEADER. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AT ODDS WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

AND THEN THERE'S HOPE. ORPHANED--  
--LEFT BEHIND BY HER PEOPLE--  
--EVEN RELATED TO ME AND UNCLE ROBOTNIK.

AND STILL SHE'S FOUND HER PLACE AMONG THESE ANIMALS AND IS HAPPY...

WHAT THE...?

**BUMMMMMM...**



UNCLE ROBOTNIK!

AS ASTUTE AS EVER, SNIVELY.

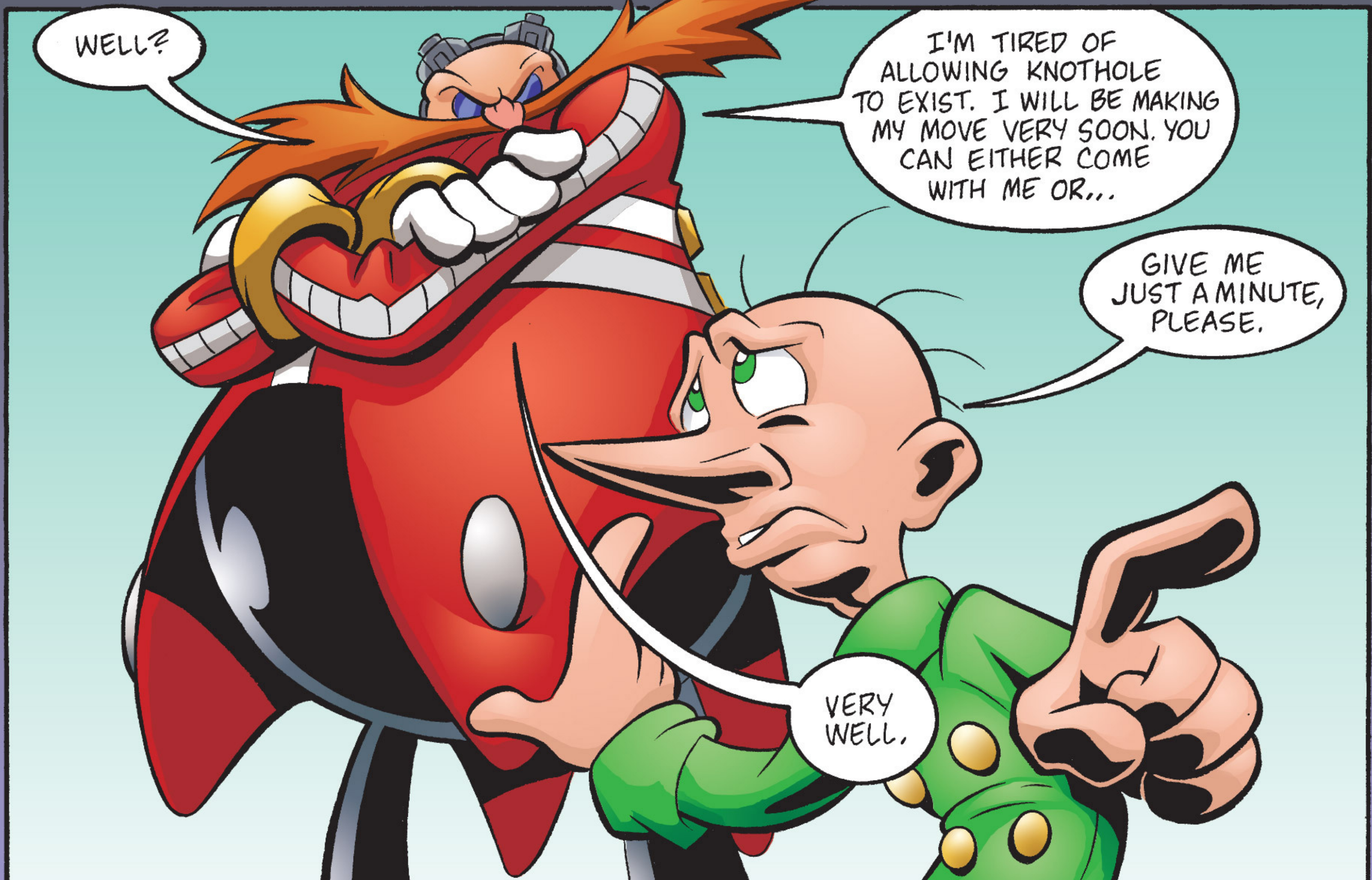
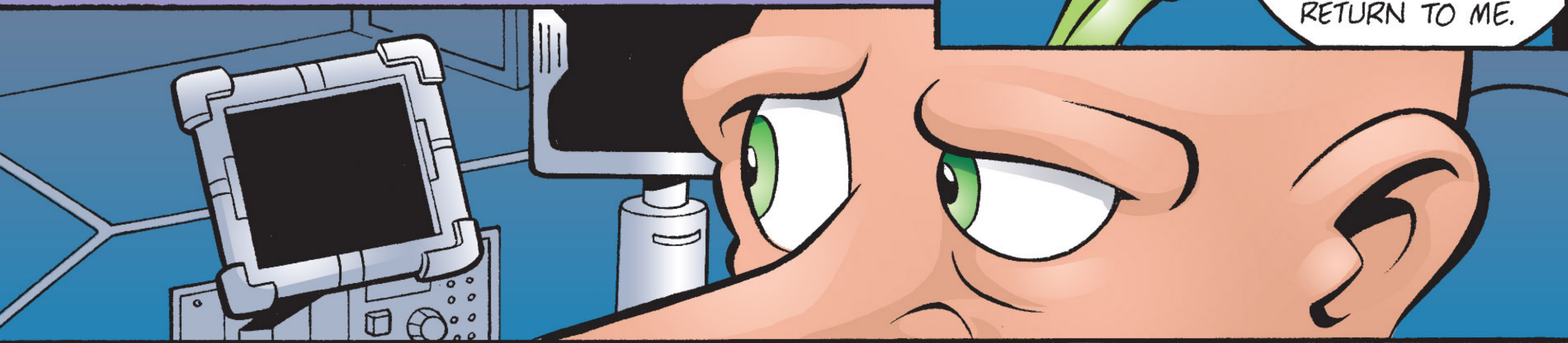
PACK YOUR THINGS. YOU'RE COMING HOME.

I-I-I AM...? BUT I...

WE'RE ON THE EVE OF MY GREATEST RETALIATORY STRIKE.

NOBODY-- THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS NOR ANONYMOUS-- WILL SURVIVE.

YOU'VE SERVED ME THE LONGEST AND THE BEST OF ANY OF MY CRONIES, SO I'M GIVING YOU THIS ONE CHANCE TO RETURN TO ME.

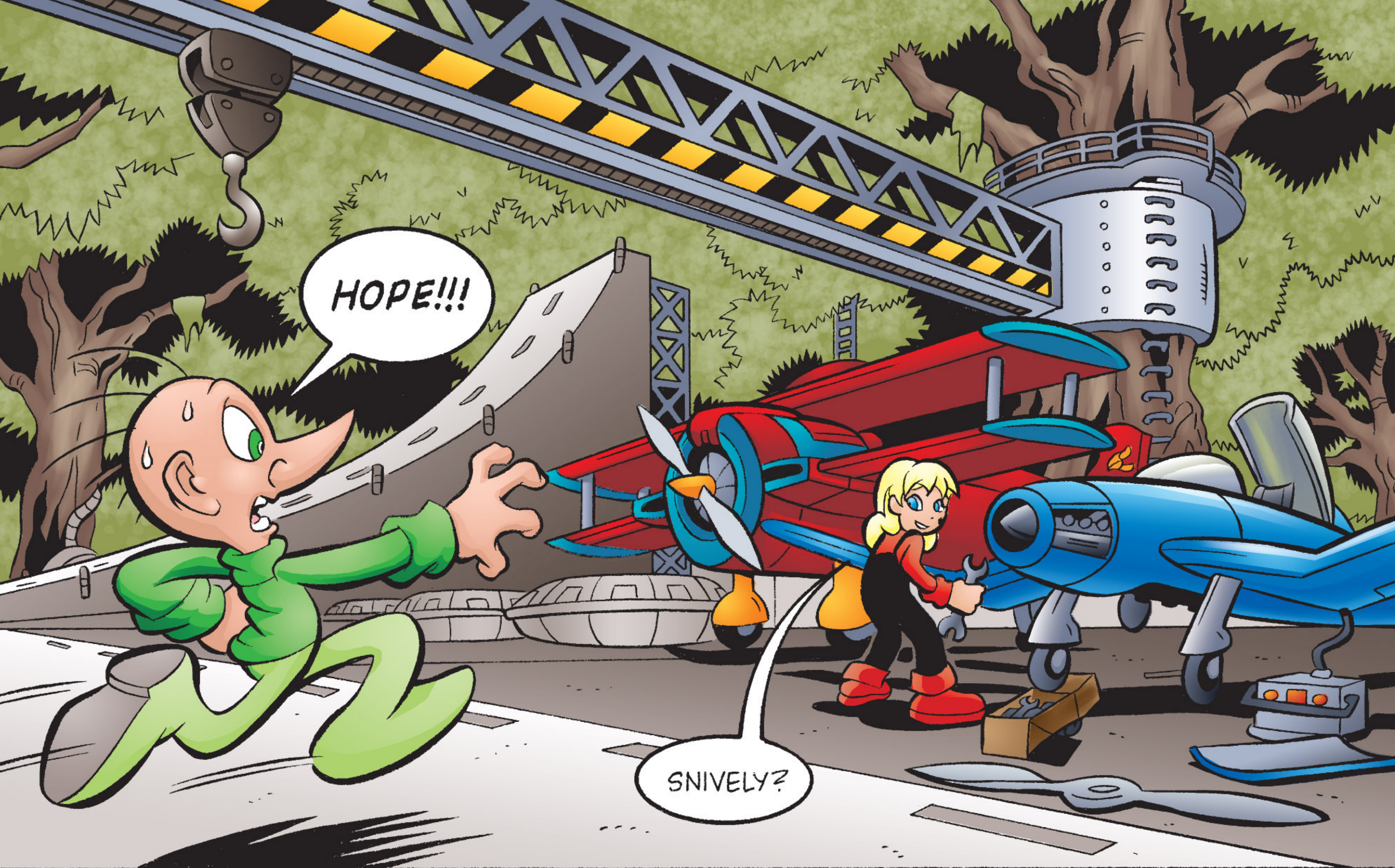


WELL?

I'M TIRED OF ALLOWING KNOTHOLE TO EXIST. I WILL BE MAKING MY MOVE VERY SOON. YOU CAN EITHER COME WITH ME OR...

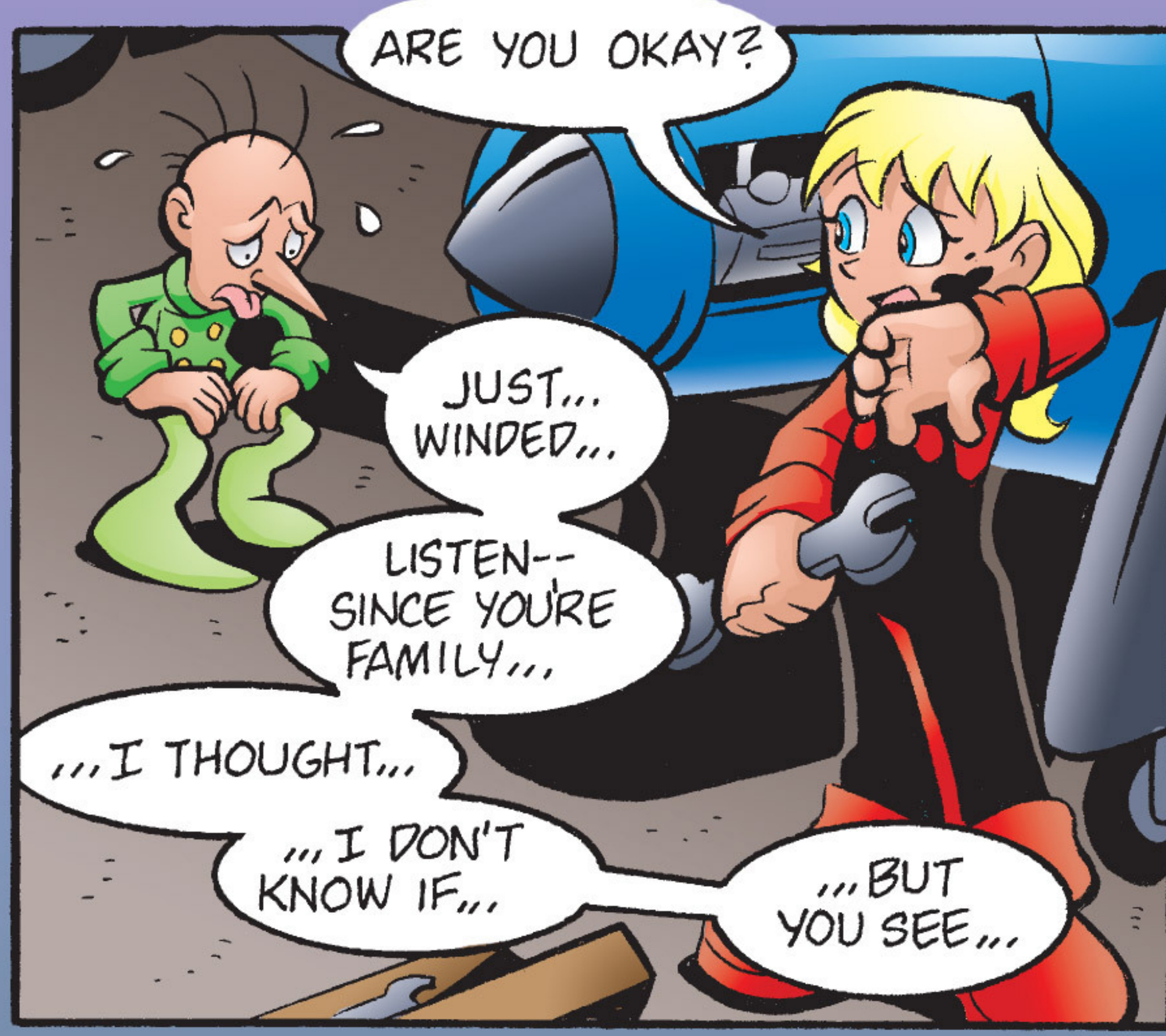
GIVE ME JUST A MINUTE, PLEASE.

VERY WELL.



HOPE!!!

SNIVELY??



ARE YOU OKAY??

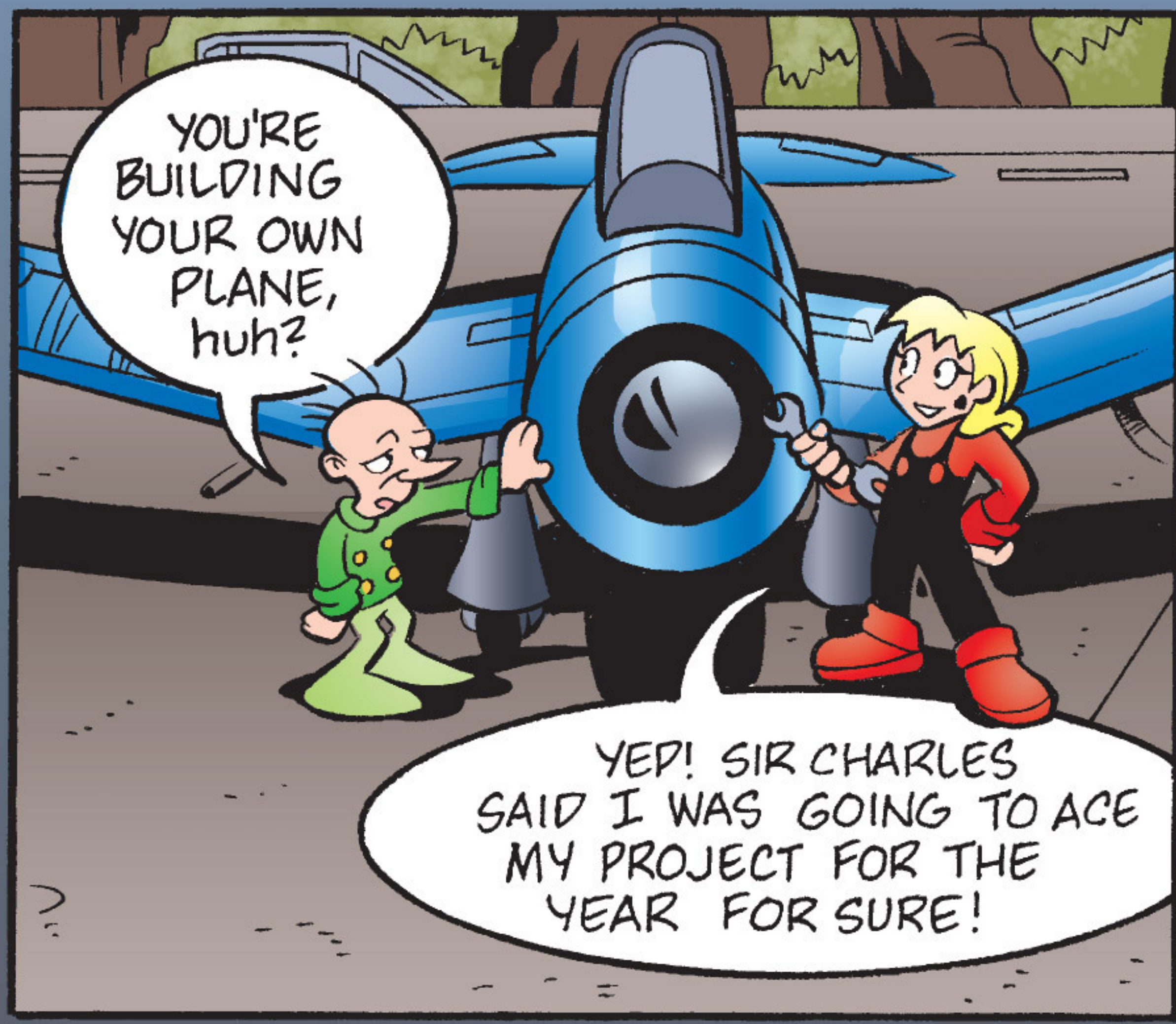
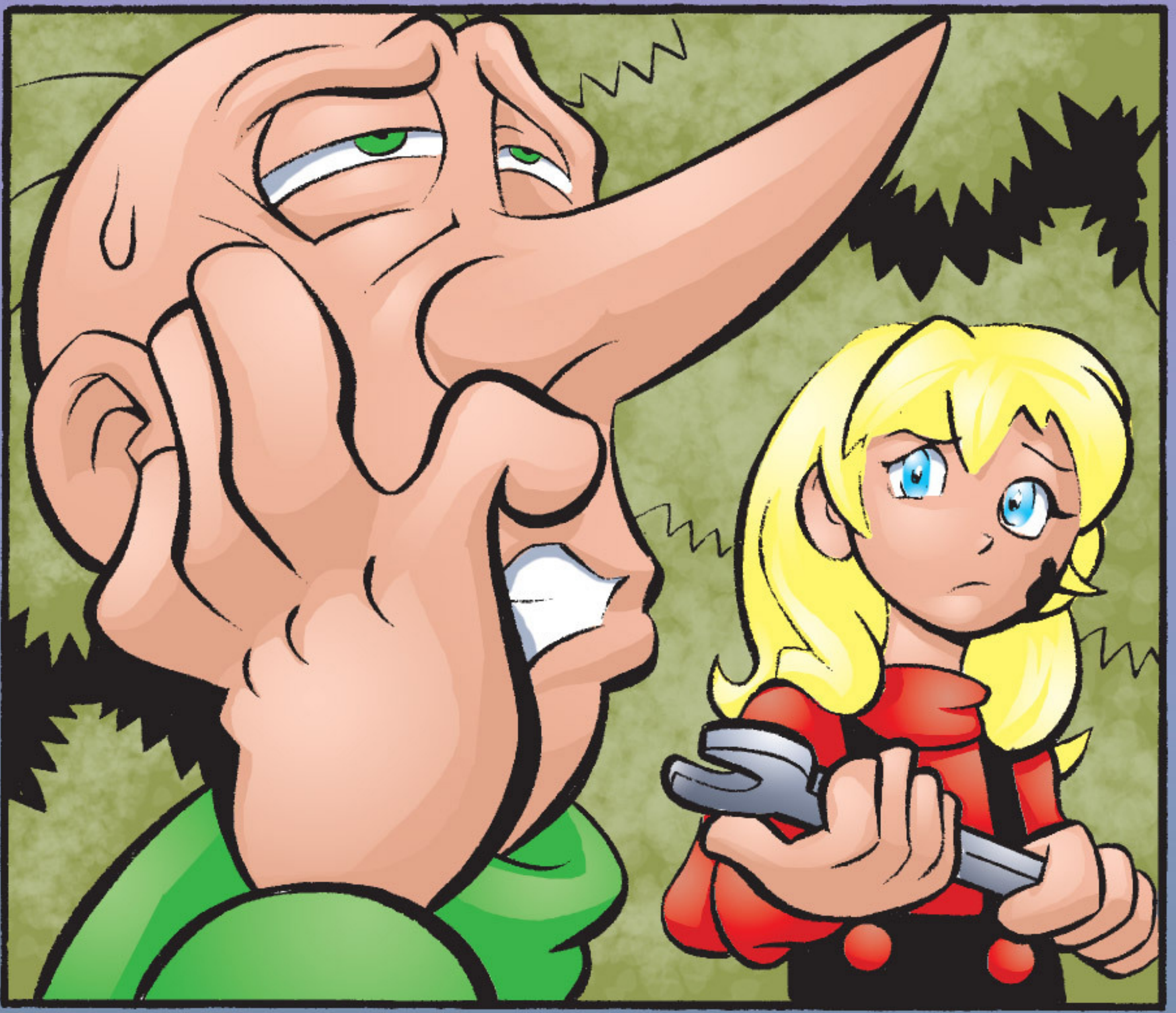
JUST... WINDED...

LISTEN-- SINCE YOU'RE FAMILY...

...I THOUGHT...

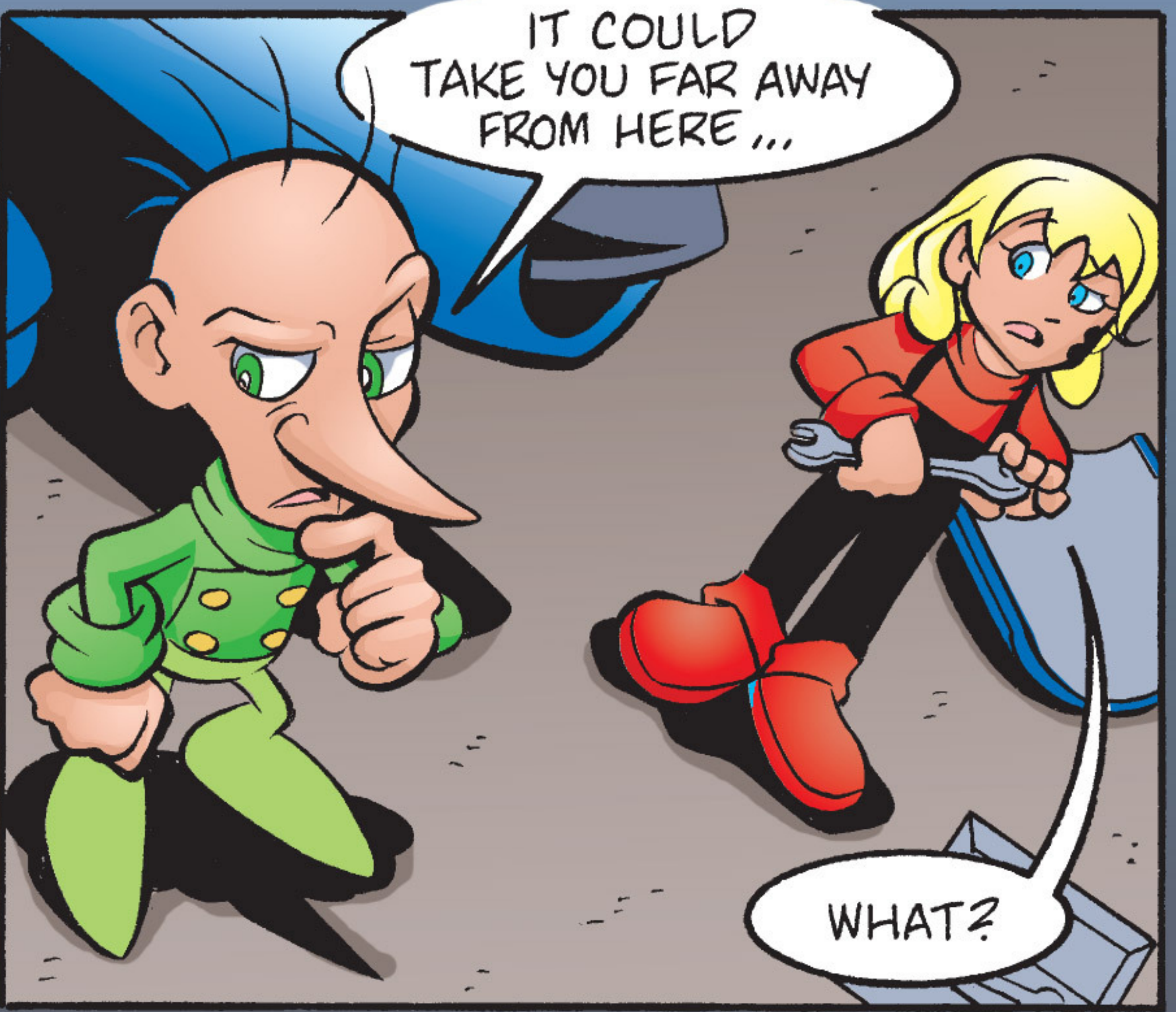
...I DON'T KNOW IF...

...BUT YOU SEE...



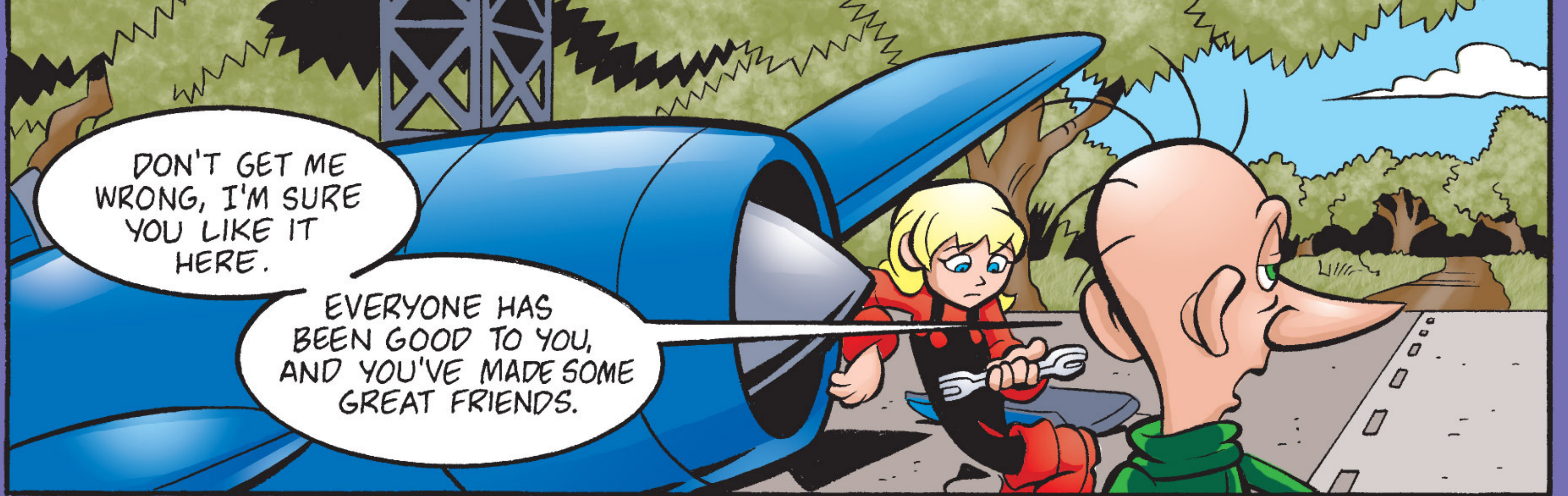
YOU'RE BUILDING YOUR OWN PLANE, huh??

YEP! SIR CHARLES SAID I WAS GOING TO ACE MY PROJECT FOR THE YEAR FOR SURE!



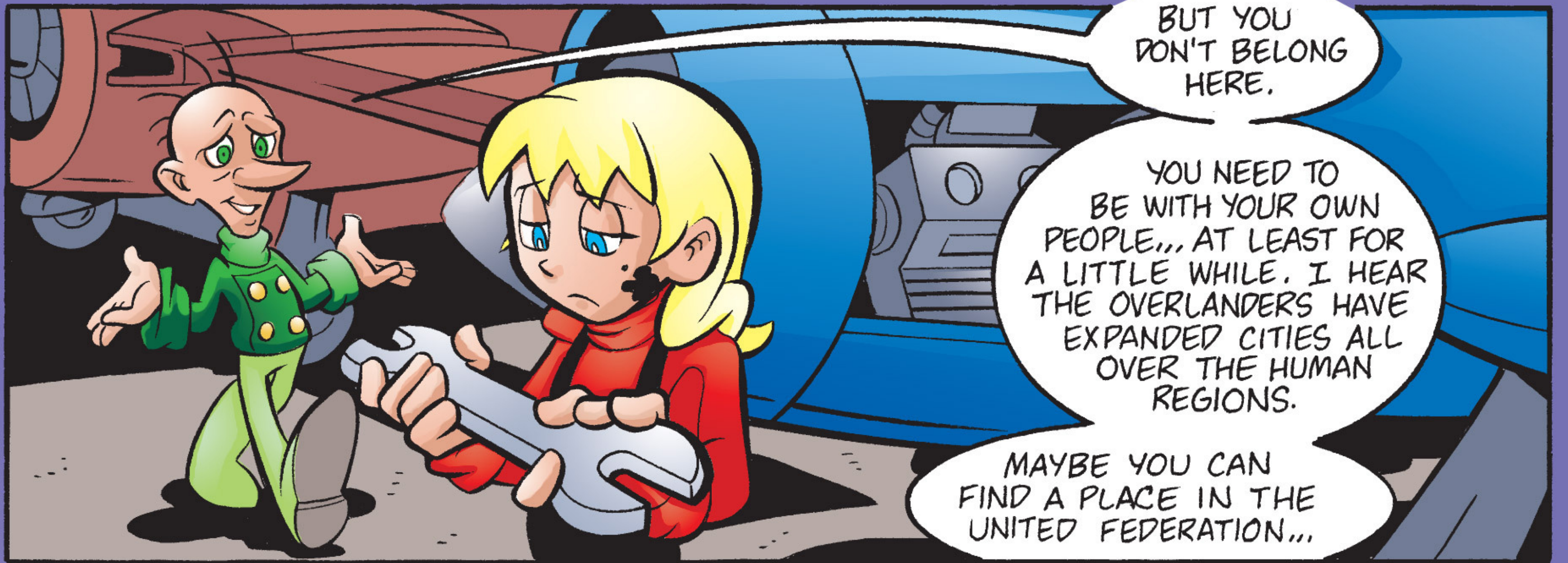
IT COULD TAKE YOU FAR AWAY FROM HERE ...

WHAT??



DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'M SURE YOU LIKE IT HERE.

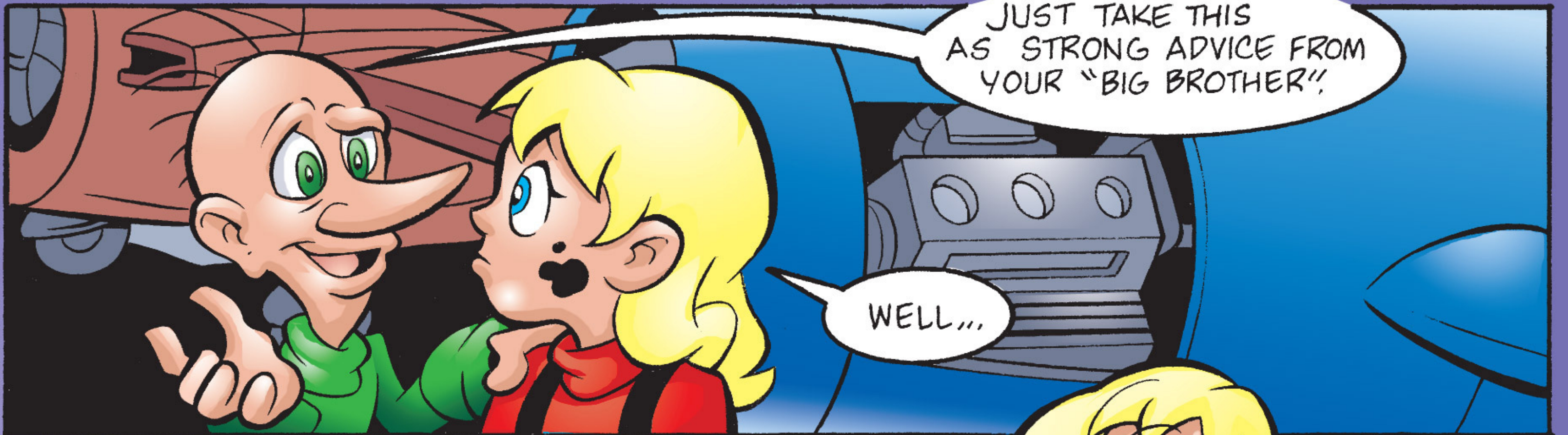
EVERYONE HAS BEEN GOOD TO YOU, AND YOU'VE MADE SOME GREAT FRIENDS.



BUT YOU DON'T BELONG HERE.

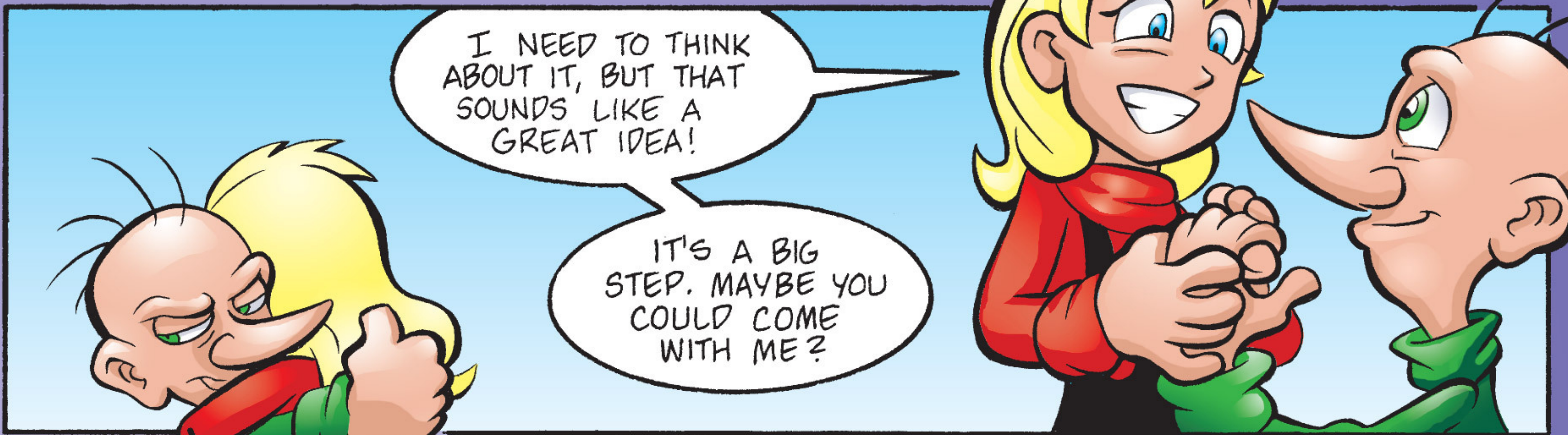
YOU NEED TO BE WITH YOUR OWN PEOPLE... AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE WHILE. I HEAR THE OVERLANDERS HAVE EXPANDED CITIES ALL OVER THE HUMAN REGIONS.

MAYBE YOU CAN FIND A PLACE IN THE UNITED FEDERATION...



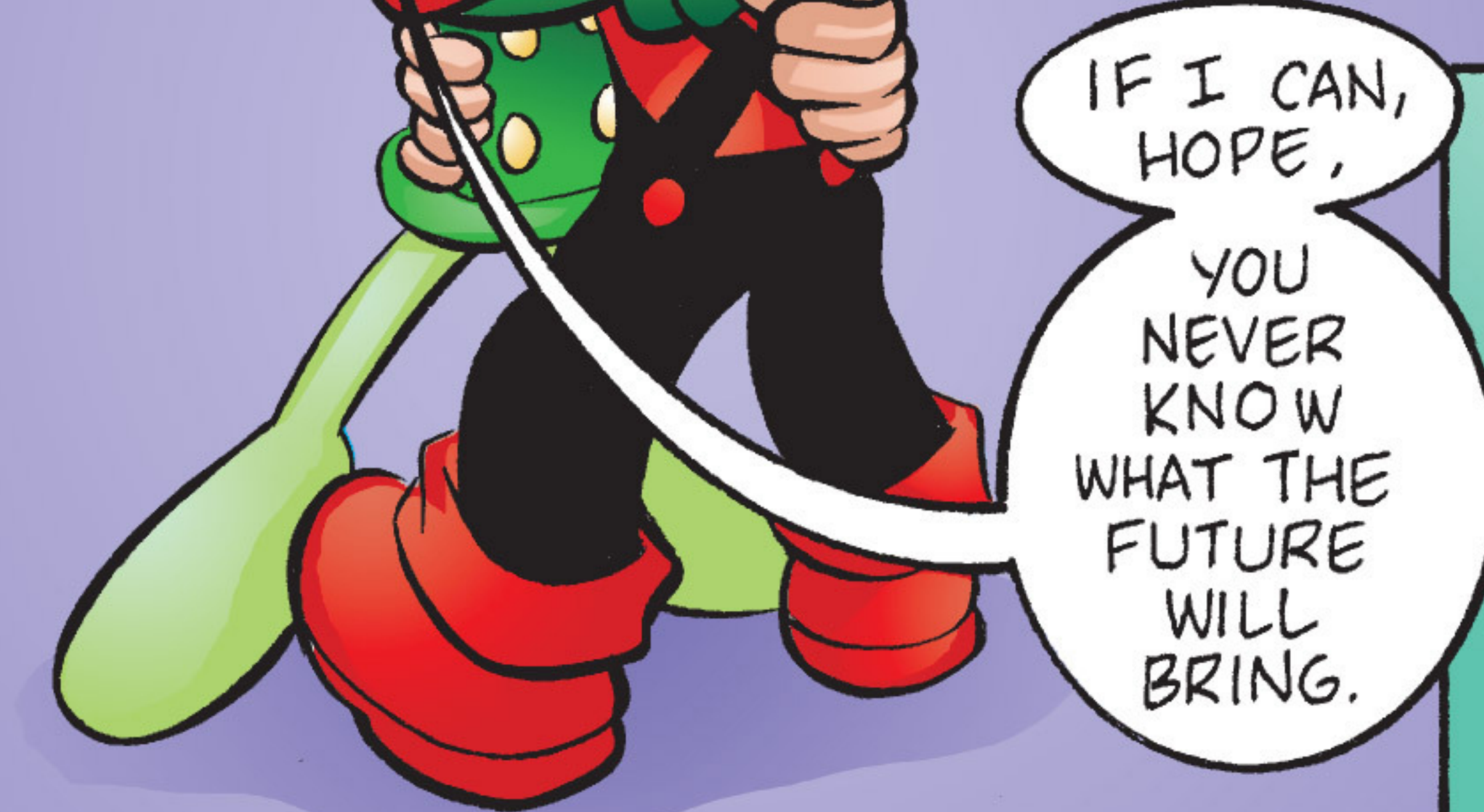
JUST TAKE THIS AS STRONG ADVICE FROM YOUR "BIG BROTHER".

WELL...



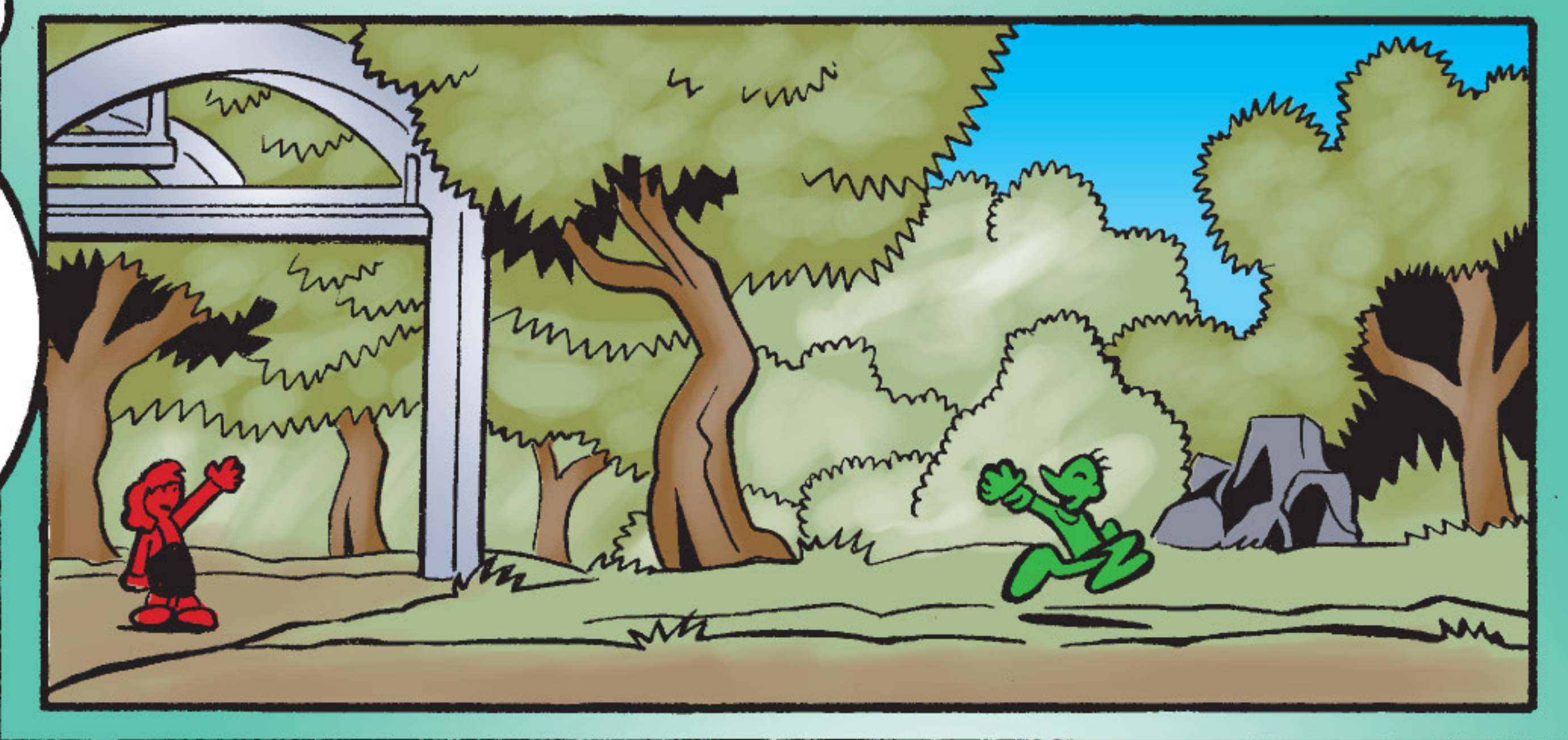
I NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT, BUT THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT IDEA!

IT'S A BIG STEP. MAYBE YOU COULD COME WITH ME?



IF I CAN, HOPE,

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING.





AND SO...

SNIVELY ROBOTNIK.  
I'VE COME FULL  
CIRCLE.

I BETRAYED  
MY FAMILY TO  
WORK WITH MY  
UNCLE. I BETRAYED  
THE MOBIANS TO  
HELP MY UNCLE  
CONQUER THE WORLD.  
I BETRAYED MY  
UNCLE TO TAKE  
THE WORLD FROM  
HIM AND TO SAVE  
MY OWN STORE.

NOW I  
BETRAY THE MOBIANS  
AGAIN TO HELP  
MY UNCLE.

THANK YOU,  
SONIC AND ALL  
YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU TRUSTED  
ME AND TOOK ME  
IN WHEN I NEEDED  
HELP THE MOST.

SUCH WEAKNESS  
WILL NOT BE  
TOLERATED IN  
DR. EGGMAN'S  
EMPIRE.

RUN, HOPE...  
RUN.

NEXT ISSUE THINGS REALLY HEAT UP FOR SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! DON'T MISS SONIC # 163 ON SALE JUNE

AND, JOIN SONIC'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY MAYHEM IN SONIC X #10, ON SALE JUNE

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